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THE TIMES

Rates: The price of rough justice, page 16

Junta in El Salvador accuses right-wing leader of inciting coup

President José Napoleon Duarte of El Salvador has ordered the arrest of a former major in the national guard for making what he saw as a call for a coup d'etat by right-wing military elements. This new threat to the country's centre-right junta seems likely to embarrass American efforts to win acceptance of their support for Señor Duarte.

Embarrassment for US policy

From Michael Leapman
San Salvador, March 4

A new threat to El Salvador's centre-right junta came yesterday from the extreme right—and it seems likely to embarrass the United States Administration in their effort to win acceptance of their support for the regime here.

Señor Roberto d'Aubuisson, a former major in the National Guard and twice suspected of trying to engineer right-wing coups, held a melodramatic press conference calling for a seizure of power by army rightists and suggesting that such a coup might be imminent.

Without specifically claiming support for his attempt from the Reagan Administration, he said that he had held discussions with two members of it, naming Mr Roger Fontaine of the National Security Council and General David Graham, who was in the transition team but who is not now in office.

But today Mr Frederick Chapin, the United States ambassador, said: "The United States Government supports President Duarte and his Government. We oppose a coup and anyone who seeks to change the Duarte Government."

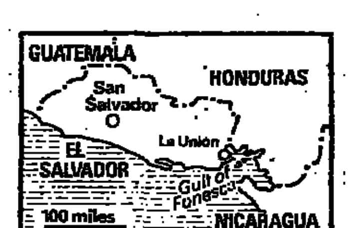
Earlier today five shots were fired at the American embassy from a white open lorry, causing slight damage but no injuries. Mr Chapin said that "this incident has all the hallmarks of a d'Abuisson operation—we have no intention of being intimidated".

He did not say why he thought the shots came from the rightists rather than the left, but observers recalled that a similar attack on the embassy from a similar vehicle was made when Señor d'Abuisson tried to engineer a coup last year.

President José Napoleon Duarte angrily denounced Señor d'Aubuisson at a press conference today, saying he had ordered his arrest for what was "practically a call for a coup de'tat". It is thought unlikely, however, that Señor d'Aubuisson *is still in the country.*

"The extreme right is always eager to coup", the President said. "They want to restore their privilege and are not concerned with the people, only their privileges and their money.

"They try all the time and they will continue trying to coup d'etat. But the Government



is not accepting any threats from anyone to change the decision we have made to base our country on justice and democracy . . . We will look for the solution of democracy *whether the extreme right likes* it or not".

A rightist coup would not be welcomed at the State Department, always having difficulties justifying to America's allies its support for Señor Duarte's Junta.

Briefing British correspondents in Washington yesterday, Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, spoke of improvements needed in the present regime.

"We expect to see progress towards pluralization", he said, "towards the achievement and preservation of human rights, towards the rejection of excesses by the right as well as the left".

Those were not the kind of changes advocated by Señor d'Aubuisson at his clandestine *press conference yesterday.* Reporters were picked up by one of his aides at their hotel and driven by a circuitous route to a once grand, Spanish-style mansion in a good area of town.

He sat behind a table on the ill-kempt lawn, armed bodyguards lurking beneath the trees surrounding it. He is a small man wearing a blue baseball cap decorated with laurel *leaves. At his side hung a* sharp silver dagger

Speaking with passion and emphasis, he said he had spoken at many army camps and found support among officers for his criticism of the liberal tendencies of Señor Duarte's coalition, especially of the reforms which broke up large coffee estates to give land to the people. He said this had destroyed the country's economy.

He accused liberals in the regime of treachery in that there was talk of making a pact with the left-wing guerillas and even of bringing some of them into the Government. In a written statement he said it was time for a new stage in government which would guarantee the true beginning of a "national struggle for recovery".

Asked when this might take place, he replied: "March seems a good month".

This threat from the right comes just after a successful week, militarily, for the Government in their efforts to suppress the guerrillas of the left. Government troops took many of the positions the left had occupied during their failed "final offensive" in January.

The army claims to have killed hundreds of guerrillas in the operation but other evidence suggests that casualties were light and that the leftists made strategic withdrawals before the decisive attacks.

Reporters were taken to a former guerrilla base in a coffee plantation on top of the Conchagua volcano overlooking La Unión in the south-east. It was said to have been occupied by 700 rebels and 150 casualties were claimed. The only body we saw during a four-hour climb to the camp was that of a dog.

At his press conference Señor Duarte made a gesture of reconciliation to the left by extending the amnesty for guerrillas for a further 30 days with a promise of more to come.

No halt to arms: The European representative of leftist guerrillas in El Salvador said today that Nicaragua's pledge not to allow arms for the rebels to cross its territory would not affect their supplies.

Señor Luis de Sebastian, the EEC representative of the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) guerrillas, also said in Paris that the United States policies on El Salvador would not have a bearing on the outcome of the civil war.

"Harsh measures, backed by *the United States, have been in* place for over a year to stop our weapons supplies. We have found ways of circumventing them, that's evident", he said.

America suspended aid to Nicaragua last month when it said it had information that Cuba was channelling arms to the El Salvador guerrillas throuhg Nicaragua.

But in Managua, Señor Francisco Fiallos Navarro, the Foreign Minister, said today that he is asking the Nicaraguan ambassador in Washington to check on reports of Nicaraguan assurances to the United States that it would try to halt the alleged armed shipments to El Salvador guerrillas. Reuter, AP.

Reagan TV interview, page 7

Front march stopped by Whitelaw order

By Lucy Hodges

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, agreed last night to ban all political marches in London until the end of this month after a request yesterday from Scotland Yard.

The ban will cover Saturday's proposed National Front march past the house in Lewisham where 13 blacks died after a fire six weeks ago and a counter-demonstration planned by the Anti-Nazi League.

The ban, under the Public Order Act, 1936, comes into force at 6 am today and will last until midnight on March 31.

The Home Secretary's decision will be widely welcomed by people in Lewisham who were extremely angry that the Front proposed to march past the house, particularly in view of the black community's suspicions that the deaths were caused by a racialist attack. The Front proposed to protest against those allegations.

On Monday the demonstration by thousands of blacks through central London against the police handling of the case showed the strength of those feelings. There were outbreaks of violence and 23 arrests, and 17 policemen were injured.

The police were worried that there could be more racial violence this weekend if the marches were allowed.

At a lunch given by the Foreign Press Association yesterday, before it was known that the police would apply for a ban, Mr Whitelaw said he would not hesitate to ban the march if the police convinced him he should do so.

Although there were disadvantages in bans, he said, he could see no reason why the National Front should want to march past the burnt-out house.

He said he was very concerned by Monday's march, but he did not think Britain's racial difficulties had reached a crisis or that the police had been *inactive on Monday.*

Mr Peter Neivens, Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, said yesterday: "Nobody in a sane state of mind would permit a march by a group of that philosophy at the rear of the house where the fire started".

Since 1936 the Public Order Act has been used only 12 times to ban big marches. It was used in Sandwell, West Midlands, last August, after the National Front had applied to demonstrate.

Top-level decision: A high political decision that the police should not appear to be protecting the National Front was the key to the Government's ban (our Political Editor writes). That was learnt last night in authoritative quarters. The Government was relieved to receive the police application.

After Monday's march through London it wanted to send a signal of concern to the black community and to avert a situation in which, as protectors of public order, they would have been seen as protecting the National Front.



Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Mrs Thatcher standing silently as some of the demonstrators are escorted by police out of the church.

Communists heckle Mrs Thatcher in church

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Seven members of the Young Communist League yesterday disrupted a lunchtime lecture by Mrs Margaret Thatcher at St Lawrence Jewry, near Guildhall, London, and were escorted from the church by police. The Prime Minister had just started her talk to about 500 people who packed the church when the league members began shouting slogans from seats behind Mrs Thatcher as she stood before the wrought-iron lectern.

Mr Frank Chalmers, aged 25, the league's national organizer, left his seat, mounted the pulpit and harangued the Prime Minister. "You are not a Christian, you are a murderer," he shouted. "We want jobs, not bombs. We want freedom in El Salvador." Mrs Thatcher remained quiet during the heckling but after the demonstrators were escorted from the church, she told her audience: "You see why I fight these people."

Outside the church Mr Chalmers said the group was protesting against mass murder in El Salvador and the fact that the Government was making cuts in public expenditure but not in defence. The other demonstrators were Mr Martin Chater, son of the editor of the *Morning Star*, Miss Monica Kreel, Mr John Bolgar, Miss Jenifer Bolgar, Mr Philip Dennison and Mr Terry Gallagher.

After the Vicar of St Lawrence, the Rev Basil Watson, had thanked the Prime Minister for giving the first of a series of lunchtime talks by public figures, and had described the five-minute demonstration as "disgraceful", Mrs Thatcher replied: "I had felt constrained because I was in a church, otherwise I might have gone for them—wham, wham".

In her speech the Prime Minister said she suspected that only a minority acknowledged the authority of God in their lives. "*Perhaps that is why we have* turned to the state to do so many things which in the past were the prerogative of the family, why crimes of violence are increasing, and a few people are even suggesting that murder can be justified on the grounds that it is political, a view which must be abhorrent to Christians."

Mrs Thatcher described inflation as an "insidious evil" and confessed that "of all the difficulties I face, unemployment concerns me *most of all*".

England cricket tour goes on

By Our Sports Staff

The England cricket tour of the West Indies will continue as arranged after the Cricket Council, meeting at Lord's yesterday, confirmed the decision of four Caribbean governments which will allow Robin Jackman to play in the remaining matches. Jackman's sporting links with South Africa caused Guyana to expel him.

The representatives of Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica and Montserrat finally emerged early yesterday morning from a secret meeting at a holiday centre near Bridgetown to deliver their statement, which had been held up because of consultations with other Commonwealth countries and difficulties of communication with Jamaica.

The Foreign Office welcomed the news and a spokesman said that the Gleneagles Agreement on sporting contacts with South Africa was likely to be discussed at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting later this year.

John Woodcock, page 21

All passenger flights in Britain to be stopped by strike on Monday

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

All important airports in the United Kingdom will be closed on Monday because of a one-day strike by civil servants. There will be no commercial flights in or out of the country for the first time since the last war.

The Civil Aviation Authority advised airlines and air traffic services in other countries yesterday to work on the understanding that there would be no air traffic cover in the United Kingdom for 24 hours from midnight on Sunday.

Air traffic controllers who have voted to support the national strike, called by unions representing 530,000 civil servants, have agreed to provide limited cover for aircraft in emergency and medical use.

Flights of light aircraft from small airports are unlikely to be affected, but it is possible that pilots will have to take off without weather forecasts, because civil servants in the Meteorological Office are expected to join the strike, called in protest at a 7 per cent pay offer and the Government's refusal to give guarantees on a future pay bargaining system.

Several Scottish airports and airfields will be closed, affecting the operations of helicopters servicing North Sea oil rigs. Cross-Channel sea traffic may also be disrupted.

The 1,500 air traffic controllers are members of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, most of whom have voted to support the action. They are not directly covered by the negotiations on Civil Service pay, which have broken down, but are linked to general pay agreements and have submitted to the Civil Aviation Authority a claim similar to the 15 per cent demand submitted on behalf of all nine Civil Service unions.

The aviation authority said in a statement last night: "The authority deplores the action . . . unions in the Civil Service, to which the authority does not belong, to instruct members of authority staff to absent themselves from work."

Flights during the dispute will be cancelled or diverted to Continental airports or to Ireland.

Airports where there will be no air traffic control services on Monday are: Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Cardiff, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Prestwick and the aviation authority's eight Scottish airfields.

Air traffic controllers at smaller airports, such as Luton, Newcastle upon Tyne, Teesside and East Midlands, are members of the National and Local Government Officers Association (Nalgo) which is not in dispute, but it is unlikely that those airports will be able to *continue normal operations* because aircraft must be supervised by the main air traffic control centres after they leave the control authority of the airport controllers.

Mr Douglas Bush, chairman of the air traffic control officers' branch of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, said last night that there had been "a very positive degree of support" for the strike from controllers throughout the country. He thought it highly unlikely that there would be any civil air transport movement in the United Kingdom.

Silent executives, page 2

Labour MPs urged to oppose Trudeau move

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

In a confidential document circulated to Labour MPs by the party's international department it is recommended that they should vote against the proposals of Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, for Canada's revised constitution if they come to London in their present form.

This is the first indication of the official Opposition attitude to the request which is *expected from Ottawa towards* the end of this month.

If Labour MPs join the large number of Conservative MPs who are opposed to the measure so long as there is no agreement between the provincial and federal governments in Canada, Mr Trudeau's initiative will be blocked by the Commons.

It will certainly run into *severe difficulties if it gets to* the Lords, where a number of peers are prepared to introduce petitions on behalf of the provincial governments in the event of Mr Trudeau persisting in unilateral action.

Yesterday members of both Houses were angry about the Government's reported intention to bring the Trudeau scheme before Parliament in a *form that will not be amendable.* The long title and preamble of the Bill will be so worded that MPs will have only the choice of voting for or against the complete constitutional package.

The Labour document states: "In the near future, the Government is likely to accede to the request of Mr Trudeau to 'patriate' the powers still retained *by Westminster over Canada's* ability to amend and control her own constitution. At first glance, the Labour Party might consider such a request to be perfectly reasonable, given the strength of the anti-colonialist tradition within the party.

"Indeed, the position which the party might choose to take on the issue would be quite different if the nature of the request itself were modified. For, not only is Pierre Trudeau asking for the right to amend Canada's constitution in Canada; he is also demanding that our Parliament in Westminster should ratify a new Bill of Rights which he has attached to his request and pass judgment on the distribution of the wealth retrieved from his country's vast reserves of natural and mineral resources."

Far from being a simple request, the document states, the proposed move is "a shrewd political manoeuvre aimed at reinforcing federal authority at the expense of the provinces."

MPs in London had to take cognizance of the federal nature of Canada's constitution. "Consequently, a unilateral proposal *which emanates from the Federal Government alone,* and which is opposed by a majority of the provinces must be looked at in some detail or refused until a consensus can be reached."

The Westminster Parliament must accept that it was placed in the position of an arbiter between federal and provincial interests.

The nine-page document outlines the background and describes the political forces at work in Ottawa. Referring to the support given to the Trudeau proposals at the federal level by the National Democratic Party (NDP) and also to the objections made by Mr Allan Blakeney and his NDP provincial government in Saskatchewan the statement *claims that the NDP is divided* about 50-50 on the issue.

"There is some resentment of the Trudeau-Broadbent agreement which appears to have been decided unilaterally by Ed Broadbent [leader of the NDP] and the federal parliamentary caucus", it states.

"The unions which support the NDP are generally hostile to the federal government's proposals, and most of the local and provincial leadership of the party are deeply suspicious and sometimes, as in the case of Quebec, openly hostile".

There had been some suggestions that the leadership of the party would renege on the agreement with Mr Trudeau because of rank-and-file pressure.

Under the heading: "Conclusion", the document states: "Because the present Canadian Government proposals go far beyond the mere request to patriate the constitution, this paper argues that the Labour Party should oppose such a move at this time."

Letters, page 17

BL to cut back 24,000 more jobs in two years

BL will cut a further 24,000 jobs in the next two years to put the company back on the road to recovery, according to Sir Michael Edwardes the chairman. His remarks to a Commons Select Committee are certain to provoke widespread opposition among trade union leaders, particularly since a further £990m in state aid has just been promised. The car company is expected to show losses of £400m for 1980 Page 23

'Observer' deal change

An alteration of the deal in which Lonrho has agreed to buy *The Observer* from Atlantic Richfield (Arco) is intended to help to avoid an extended review by the monopolies commission, Mr Robert Anderson, Arco chairman, said. Instead of receiving a 40 per cent stake in George Outram, Arco will now take 20 per cent and £3m in cash Page 2

Producer defies Equity

Mr Stephen Kendall-Lane, producer of the London variety show, *That's Showbiz*, decided to defy an order by the London Theatre Council to halt Sunday performances, bringing him into conflict with Equity, the actors' union. The council acts as an arbitration body between Equity and the Society of West End Theatres. Union disciplinary action against the show's cast is expected Page 4

500m to watch wedding

About 500 million people are expected to watch BBC Television's *coverage of the marriage of* the Prince of Wales in St Paul's Cathedral on July 29. The operation is estimated to cost £150,000 involving 12 mobile control rooms, 60 cameras and 300 people. Mr Cliff Morgan, head of outside broadcasts, said it would be the most spectacular event since the 1937 coronation of George VI Page 3

Turkish diplomat shot dead in Paris

A Turkish diplomat was killed and another seriously injured by gunmen in Paris. An anonymous caller later told the French news agency that the attack was the work of the Armenian *Secret Army. The dead man, Mr Resat Morali,* the Assistant Labour Attaché, is the third Turkish diplomat to be assassinated in the French capital in the past five years Page 6

Spending scrutiny plea

The Committee of Public Accounts, Parliament's watchdog on government spending, wants sweeping new powers to promote closer scrutiny in the disbursement and effectiveness of government funds. Its recommendations, which come after a lengthy investigation, include the creation of a national audit office and the widening of the range of organizations subject to audit Page 3

Liverpool, Ipswich win

British clubs had mixed fortunes in European competitions. In the European Cup Liverpool beat CSKA Sofia 5—1 but West Ham lost their European Cup Winners' Cup tie 4—1 to Dynamo Tbilisi. In the same competition Newport County drew 2—2 in East Germany against Carl Zeiss Jena. Ipswich beat St Etienne 4—1 in the Uefa Cup Page 20

MPs vote on 'college'

Labour MPs approved by 144—24 a motion put by Mr Michael Foot on behalf of the Shadow Cabinet reasserting their right to the fullest say in choosing the party leader. They were renewing their claim, repeated at Wembley, to at least half the electoral college votes Page 2

Budget aid likely on energy cost

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Measures to ease the heavy burden borne by key energy-intensive industries are to be introduced by the Government. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is expected to announce some of the measures to help to restore these industries' competitiveness in his Budget statement on Tuesday.

Sir Geoffrey chaired a meeting of the National Economic Development Council yesterday which considered a detailed report on comparative energy *prices prepared by a tripartite "task force".*

The formation of this task force at the January meeting of the NEDC came after months of concern and pressure from industries, including iron and steel and chemicals, about their disproportionately high energy bills compared with other countries.

The report has confirmed much of the evidence assembled over the past 12 months, and has underlined the scale of disparity between prices paid by United Kingdom industries for coke, electricity, gas and fuel oil and prices charged for those fuels on the continent.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, who attended yesterday's meeting, promised a government response within two weeks. This was seen as indicating the strong likelihood of references in the Budget to relief measures.

He told the NEDC that the Government recognized the problems experienced by energy-intensive industries.

The strength of sterling has been one factor, but ministers have made it clear that they would not contemplate allowing the energy supply authorities to move prices up and down to reflect exchange rate fluctuations, nor would they seek to implant West German and French cost structures in the United Kingdom.

Continued on page 23, col 7

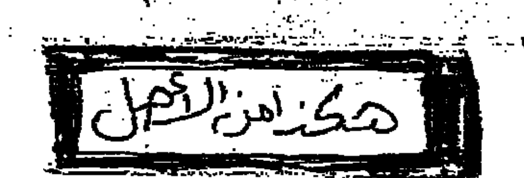


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"... Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit."—Ezekiel 18: 31.

BIRTHS

BELL.—On 2nd March in Hereford, to Imogen and Julian—a son, Thomas, brother to Kate.

EVANS.—On March 2, in Cambridge to Susan (nee Daniels) and Chris—a daughter (Helen Bryony).

HARRIS-JONES.—On 28th February, 1981 to Sarah (nee Carter) and Richard—a son.

HOPE.—On 2nd March, at St. Thomas's, to Catherine (nee Fraser) and James—a daughter, sister for Douglas.

HURST-BANNISTER.—On March 1, to Campie (nee Perks) and Barnabas—a daughter (Henrietta Bridget Florence).

NORMAN.—On March 2nd, 1981, at Basingstoke District Hospital, to Diana and David—a daughter (Davina Penelope).

PROSSER.—On February 27th, at St. David's, Cardiff, to David and Hilary—a son (William Nicholas), brother for Thomas and James.

ROWELL.—On March 3rd, at Hammersmith Hospital, to Charlotte (nee Roberts) and Lance—a son (Christopher Lancelot).

SOUTHORN.—On 2nd March, to Jennifer and Antony, a son, Michael Peter, a brother for Caroline, Christopher and Elizabeth.

DEATHS

ARTUS.—On March 1st after a short illness, at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Ernest Edward, in his 79th year, the beloved husband of Doris and father of Ronald and Beryl. Funeral at the Downs Crematorium, Brighton, on Monday, 9th March at 2.30 p.m. No flowers please, but if desired, donations to the British Heart Foundation, c/o R. Vinall (Henfield) Ltd., Nep Town Road, Henfield, Sussex. Tel Henfield 2281.

BELL.—On March 1st 1981 at Greenbushes Nursing Home, Dorchester, Dorset in her 89th ...

HYNES.—On Monday, March 2nd, 1981, after a short illness in Princess Margaret hospital, Swindon, Thomas Gerard, aged 77 years, of 6 Inlands Close, Pewsey, Wiltshire. Dearly loved father of Elizabeth & Michael. Requiem mass at the Church of the Holy Family, Pewsey, on Friday, March 6th; at 12 noon.

JEFFREYS.—On March 2nd, peacefully at 5 Thorpe Avenue, Peterborough, Giles, aged 52 years, beloved husband of Sue and dear father of Katherine, Simon and Peter.

KEYMS.—On 1st March, suddenly, Mary Jane, beloved mother of Barbara and Terence. Requiem Mass, 10.00 am. Thursday 5th March at St Francis of Assisi, Pottery Lane, W11. Flowers to John Nodes and Sons Ltd, 181 Ladbroke Grove, W10.

KIDD (NEE PERRY).—On 1st March, 1981, peacefully in her sleep, Ethel Louise, aged 87, widow of Hugh Beresford-Kidd, C.I.E., K.P.M., formerly Inspector General of Police, Bombay Presidency, beloved mother of Lesley, James and William. Funeral at Putney Vale Cemetery on Tuesday 10th March at 3.15 p.m. Flowers to S. Smith and Son, 127 Lingfield Road, Edenbridge, Kent.

LEESTON-SMITH.—On March 2nd 1981, at her home, Diana Elizabeth Leeston-Smith. Funeral enquiries to Cyril H. Lovegrove, 4 Town Square, Bracknell, Berkshire. Tel.: 0344 21949.

McGINN.—On February 27th, 1981, in hospital, Doris Harbon McGinn, of Weavers, Liss, Hants, aged 85. Funeral at St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church, Plantation Road, Liss, Tuesday, March 10th at 10.30 a.m., followed by cremation at Chichester. Flowers, if desired, to Funeral Services (Petersfield) Limited.

MARTIN.—On March 2nd, 1981, Alexander Frederick at home. Funeral service at St. Giles Church, Oxford, Friday, 6th March at 2 pm. For family and close friends. Private cremation. No flowers but donations to St. Giles Organ Fund, care of Mrs. Williams, 56 Harpes Road, Oxford. Memorial service later.

MORRISON.—On March 3, peacefully at Freeland, Nr. Oxford, Rachel Brown, widow of Dr. ...

... and mother of Caroline, Elizabeth and Richard. Funeral service at St. Augustine's Church, Tunbridge Wells, on Friday, March 6th at 10.30 Flowers to E. R. Hickmott and Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells or donations to Cancer Research.

FUNERALS

AICKMAN.—On 25th February, 1981. The funeral service for the late Mr. Robert Aickman will be held at Putney Vale Crematorium, on Thursday, 5th March, 1981, at 3.30. Flowers, if desired, to J. H. Kenyon Ltd., 49 Marloes Road, W.8. 01-937 0757. A thanksgiving service will be held at a later date.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,465

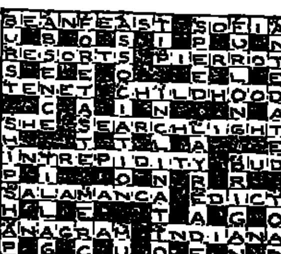
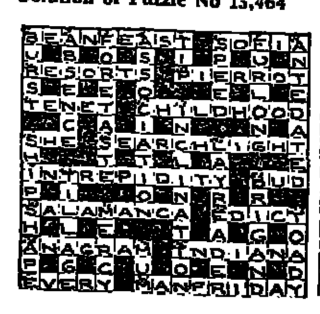
ACROSS

1 What the Frenchies did to Blakeney (6).
4 Avalanche heralding Spring (8).
10 Enterprise producing rainbows ? (5-4).
11 Car one's seen in mid-Surrey ? (5).
12 Make longer—or shorten the batsman's innings (4, 3).
13 Subsequently put a pound on the side (7).
14 Letter written December 1st—terribly late (5).
15 Inspiration — something brewing (8).
18 Winter travel on the decline (8).
20 Load vehicle and be off (5).
23 Where a waitress maybe hates to work ? (3-4).
25 One whose action precedes cross examination (7).
26 The not-all-American girl (5).
27 " But —— are like poppies spread " (Burns) (9).
28 Office skirts put to test (8).
29 Mates for G. J. Smith in Bath (6).

DOWN

1 Earmark or reject ? (3, 5).
2 Referring to half the union which is fair (7).
3 Finger-licking controversy ? (3, 6).
5 Such performances by Dawkins and Paderewski (6-8).
6 Beat the least successful (5).
7 Brazilian city inhabited by eccentric economist (7).
8 Shade of an emperor (6).
9 Material for an explosive article ? (9-5).
16 The next one to win gold (9).
17 Among bad solicitors right ones appear as non-U passengers (8).
19 No allowance made for this speech (7).
21 Went back—perchance to sleep ? (7).
22 In which master organized pupils (6).
24 Money-spinner's first choice (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,464



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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 30

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(continued on page 30)

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HOME NEWS

Big changes proposed in scrutiny of public funds

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Sweeping new powers aimed at promoting much closer scrutiny of government spending are advocated by the Committee of Public Accounts, Parliament's watchdog on government spending.

The committee proposes the most fundamental changes in the framework and nature of public audit since the office of Comptroller and Auditor General was established in 1866.

Key recommendations made by the committee in its report,* published yesterday after a long and detailed investigation, include the creation of a national audit office to carry out the functions of the comptroller and his department and a considerable extension of the range of organizations subject to audit.

New audit laws are required urgently, the committee says, as the existing legislation is out of date. There is a need to make statutory provision for a framework of public audit to ensure accountability to Parliament for the wider range of public expenditure.

The committee says that Ministers often do not have the information they reasonably need to control their expenditure. That means that the cost effectiveness of public spending is often insufficiently tested.

In many cases it is not possible to assess accurately what a policy change would cost and there is no clear way of establishing the cost or value of resources being continuously employed . in official programmes.

A year ago the Government introduced a Green Paper, which the committee criticized for failing to tackle the fundamental questions about the need for satisfactory accountability to Parliament of public spending, of which the comptroller and his officials audit an estimated 60 per cent.

Among its recommendations the committee suggests that the proposed national audit office should be responsible for the external audit of all government accounts and that of local and health authorities.

It should also be charged with advising Parliament on the efficiency with which public money is invested in non-departmental bodies, in nationalized industries and in privately owned companies.

That would require full access to the books and records of all the organizations involved, including the National Enterprise Board and the British National Oil Corporation. The office would draw its initial staff of 1,300 from the Exchequer and Audit Department and the district audit service.

The committee is not persuaded that the "susceptibility of the possible commercial partners to wholly unsubstantiated or unsubstantial fears" should be regarded as a reason to deny the comptroller access to the books of the nationalized industries. It is confident that he woul dexercise his rights of access with discretion.

Committee of Public Accounts: The Role of the Comptroller and Auditor General, vol I, House of Commons paper 115-1 (Stationery Office, £4.20).

Leading article, page 17



Photograph by David Jones

Greenpeace mission: The crew of the Rainbow Warrior, who are ready to set sail from Southampton today in an attempt to prevent the killing next week of 15,000 pups of the hooded seal off Newfoundland (Pearce Wright writes). The ship, owned by Greenpeace, the environmental organization, has been strengthened with steel plates so that it can manoeuvre through ice. The journey to the north-west Atlantic is the most hazardous of the 14 campaigns which Rainbow Warrior has carried out. The area is one in which the Canadian authorities have been criticized for not stopping commercial seal hunting.

Political bias by school staff denied by authority

From Ronald Faux
Glasgow

The tirade against Mrs Margaret Thatcher contained in essays by pupils of Possilpark secondary school, Glasgow, was not evidence of political indoc*trination by school staff, the* Educational Institute of Scotland said yesterday.

The teacher who sent the essays to the Socialist Worker was not at the school yesterday. He has been severely disciplined by Strathclyde Regional Council for acting in an unprofessional manner.

Mr John Polock, general secretary of the institute, Scotland's largest teachers' union, said it had not disagreed with the decision to discipline the teacher.

The institute, of which the teacher was a member, agreed it had ben wrong to release the essays to the press without consulting the school or the parents of the children. It was also concerned about the nature of the material in the essays.

On allegations by Mr Alan Stewart, Conservative MP for Renfrewshire, East, that the children who wrote the essays had been indoctrinated by teachers, Mr Polock said: "There is no political indoctrination going on at the school. These views are likely to be the views of children and parents in the Possilpark area of Glasgow.

"The feeling there is very strong indeed about unemployment and the state of the country. I would not be at all surprised to find these phrases being used in Possilpark."

The accusation of indoctrination was also denied by Mr William Harley, chairman of Strathclyde council's education committee, and staff at the school.

500m likely to see royal marriage on TV

By a Staff Reporter

BBC coverage of the marriage of the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer on July 29 will be the most comprehensive outside broadcast operation the corporation has mounted. It is expected to cost £150,000 and attract a worldwide audience of 500 million.

Mr Cliff Morgan, Head of Outside Broadcasts, said yesterday that the weding in St Paul's Cathedral would be the "biggest and most glamorous event" since the 1936 Coronation of George VI.

Plans announced yesterday envisage 12 mobile control rooms, 60 cameras, 12 of them inside the cathedral, and a supporting cast of 300.

The main commentary will be by Mr Tow Fleming, a veteran of man yroyal pageants, including Princess Anne's marriage in 1973 and the Silver Jubilee in 1977.

West Country visit: The Prince yesterday began a three-day working visit to his Duchy lands in the West Country (the Press Association reports).

Profitable traffic in Ulster's terrorist country

Cross-border cattle smugglers thrive on sterling's strength

From Christopher Thomas
Armagh

The customs officer stood in a shallow crater blasted out by the Army many years ago and pondered the thick mud that oozed around his shoes. "New prints", he said, "not more than a day old".

Hoof marks were all around, deep and not yet filled by rain, and were made by perhaps twenty cattle. That meant the common agricultural policy had just been cheated of another £1,200 in one minor, successful smuggling operation across the Irish border.

The setting was in a narrow lane winding through the beautiful hills of south Armagh. The crater and a huge, rusting tank of concrete close to it were reminders that this was terrorist country, where scores of lanes and tracks are sealed at the border. That makes them conveniently quiet for smugglers.

The prints in the mud told their story. The cattle were unloaded from a lorry a few paces inside the Irish Republic, herded through the crater and around the big tank and into a lorry waiting on the other side, in Northern Ireland.

Scouts would have patrolled both sides of the border for several hours, driving through the labyrinth of lanes in case the customs men were about. They would have given the all-clear with a call to a telephone kiosk, or by flashing a torch, hanging a red blanket on a washing line, sending a citizen's band radio message, or by using one of the various devices employed in an increasingly cunning game.

The stakes are high. At this week's prices all cattle smuggled into Northern Ireland escape a levy of about £63 a head, depending on the weight of the animal, and about £8 for a pig.

Smuggling has been especially rife since last September because of the high value of sterling against the Irish pound. Since then 1,000 cattle valued at £300,000 in United Kingdom prices, have been seized by the Customs and Excise in Northern Ireland. Had they got through, the smugglers would have made about £70,000.

In bureaucratic parlance, "money compensatory amounts" should be paid on cattle and pigs when they move from south to north, to equalize the value of the green pound, the EEC's farming currency.

The odds are probably stacked in favour of the smugglers, but for those who are caught the penalty is high. They lose the animals, a lorry load of which might be worth £8,000, and the lorry.

The Customs and Excise sells them and often the failed smuggler buys back his own cows and lorry.

Cattle from the republic have a numbered metal tag in the left ear which reveals their origin, colour and sex. They are tattooed as soon as they legally enter Northern Ireland and a new tag is expected to be attached to the right ear within a fortnight.

That helps Department of Agriculture staff to keep a check on incoming stock. But the tags are not difficult to acquire in a nation of farmers, and forging tattoos has not proved a stumbling block.

Once inside Northern Ireland the smuggler can sell the beasts at an excessive profit or take them back across the border, collecting his "money compensatory amount" as he goes.

Pigs are much easier to smuggle but the profits are smaller. The tag and tattoo system does not apply and the same load of pigs may be moved illegally over the border two or three times a day, collecting the compensatory amounts as they leave Ulster at different official crossing points.

A profit of more than £600 on an average lorry load of 30 pigs is possible in a day.

More stringent safeguards are constantly devised in an effort to thwart the smugglers, but the only truly effective deterrent is out of the control of the customs men and the Department of Agriculture. That is for the Irish pound and sterling to move closer together.

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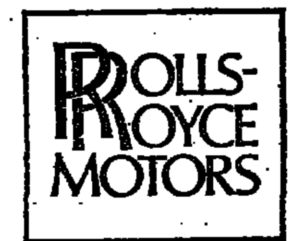
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One in 12 of jobless may be cheating, report says

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

A government report claiming that social security fraud by the unemployed may be four times as high as previous estimates is to be published soon after the Budget.

It sas that a team of officials found that fraudulent claims by the unemployed might be as high as 8 per cent, and that the Department of Health and Social Security should investigate.

That level of fraudulent claims would suggest that more than 68,000 unemployed people are cheating. The DHSS, which is believed to have challenged parts of the report, said yesterday that it had no specific data on which to bases a percentage figure for the extent of fraud.

The fraud figure is a by-product of a wider inquiry into the administration of benefits for the unemployed under the guidance of Sir Derek Rayner, the Prime Minister's adviser on waste in Whitehall.

The Civil Service unions declined to cooperate with the inquiry, which was widely believed to foreshadow an end to national insurance benefits for the unemployed.

The inquiry team, led by Department of Employment officials, visited a limited number of offices because of the hostility of the Civil Service unions. It is believed that their fraud figures are based on inquiries at only two benefit offices.

The Rayner inquiry is understood to have produced its 8 per cent figure on the proportion of unemployed people suspected to be drawing unemployment and supplementary benefit while working. That has been known for some time to be the biggest area of fraud, but one on which anti-fraud drives have concentrated in recent years.

The fraud involved is not working while drawing benefit, but not declaring earnings. Unemployed people are allowed to earn 75p a day before it affects their benefit.

That type of fraud, and cases where women drawing benefit are suspected of cohabiting with a man, are the two areas on which the Government's anti-fraud drive is concentrated.

IQ test before dismissals is abandoned

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

The management of the Revlon cosmetics factory at night dropped plans to give workers an intelligence test to determine who should be dismissed in company economies.

Union officials threatened to call the 800-strong workforce out on an indefinite strike if the test were made. They will agree to the lost of the 21 jobs in the credit control department only on a firt in, last out, basis.

convener of the General and Municipal Workers' Union at the plant, said the "stupid and ridiculous" scheme had been dreamed up by litle emperors who believe people are born with a stamp on their foreheads determining their ability". The company refused to give details of the proposed intelligence test.

Water charges inquiry 'failed to find waste'

The Government's inquiry water charges had failed to find any waste but had led to financial manipulation which could involve greater cost in the future, Mr Eric Gilliland, president of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, said yesterday.

Speaking in Birmingham, he criticized the inquiry ordered by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, after budgets for the water authorities showed increases ranging from 14 to 28 per cent.

As a result of the inquiry by independent accountants, the authorities have trimed their budgets to reduce the average increase

But Mr Gilliland, director of finance for the Thames Water Broard, said the accountants had to justify their existence by producing suggestions to reduce the rate increases

Three men cleared in Bristol riot trial

From Our Correspondent
Bristol

Three of the 12 people accused of riotous assembly in St Paul's, Bristol, last April were found not guilty at Bristol Crown Court yesterday on the direction of Mr Justice Stocker.

Sidney Clarke, aged 19, Raymond Jones, aged 25, and Nicholas Walkers, aged 19, were discharged on the twenty-second day of the hearing after 14 hours of legal submissions by counsel for all the defendants.

The judge, directing the jury to acquit the men, said: "In the case of Jones, his name has not been mentioned in the prosecution evidence from beginning to end. The reasons for the other two are more technical."

The case continued against eight other men and a woman accused of riotous assembly. The woman is also accused of wounding Police Constable Christopher Haycock. They have all pleaded not guilty.

More than seventy witnesses have said that a crowd of mainly black youngsters stoned the police, overturned police vehicles and fired and looted business premises after a drink and drugs raid on the Black and White Café, in Grosvenor Road, St Paul's.

Two of the accused elected to read prepared statements rather than give evidence. Paul Binns, aged 18, said he threw "quite a lot of stones" because everyone else was, and he did not want to be the odd one out. He said he also helped to turn over a police transit van, but did not think it was a riot.

Clinton Brown, aged 24, said in his statement that he never caused the police any trouble

The hearing continues today.

Producer defies order to stop Sunday show and faces Equity action

By Martin Huckerby
Theatre Reporter

Mr Stephen Kendall-Lane, the producer of the variety show, That's Showbiz, yesterday defied an arbitration judgment from the London Theatre Council that he should halt Sunday performances of the show, putting him in direct conflict with Equity, the actors' union.

He announced last night that he intends to continue the performances at the Phoenix Theatre, in London, although he realized that Equity would take disciplinary action against the cast. He said the performances were necessary to bring in the box office income necessary to sustain the show.

The Theatre Council, which acts as an arbitration body between Equity and the Society of West End Theatres, agreed yesterday that it would not deregister Kendall-Lane Productions as a producer if the Sunday performances were discontinued. But it said that Mr Kendall-Lane would not accept that condition and had thus deregistered, meaning that no Equity members should work for him.

Mr Kendall-Lane said after the council meeting that 32 Equity members in the show's cast had defied the union by performing last Sunday. "They will be disciplined now: it could result in their being blacked", he said.

But he hoped the cast would continue and that the public would support the show on Sunday. The cast was given Mondays and Tuesdays off in return for Sunday work but Equity has always opposed general Sunday opening for theatres.

Mr Peter Plouviez, the union's general secretary, said there would be talks with the cast today. Performers had earlier been instructed not to work on Sundays.

Impressario to rescue: The open-air theatre in Regent's Park, London, which was in danger of closing after losing its grant from the Arts Council, has been saved for this season by a gift of £26,000 from Mr Peter Saunders, the impresario.

For 48 years the annual summer season staged in the park by the New Shakespeare Company has survived the vicissitudes of the English climate, low-flying jets and variable audiences, but Mr David Conville, the company's managing director, said yesterday that they could not have kept going without sponsorship.

He said the company was "absolutely thrilled" by the gift, and was grateful for such a generous offer.

Mr Saunders, who produces *The Mousetrap* and owns the Vaudeville Theatre, said he had been sad when the council stopped the £26,000 grant to the theatre.

"It is a unique part of the London theatrical scene and I do not know of any theatre like it in the world", he said.

Mermaid reopening: The redeveloped Mermaid Theatre in the City of London, will repone on July 7 after being closed for nearly three years, with 110 extra seats, a stage doubled in size, new front of house facilities and a 250-seat children's theatre.

The Mermaid plans to run productions for six weeks at a time. Some will be presented twice nightly, with first houses starting at 6 pm for the benefit of City workers.

Housing in crisis, 2: Manchester bears scars of spending freeze; Liverpool backs home-owne

Ban blamed for big loss of jobs and rents

By John Young

The big overspill town of Wythenshawe, on the southern edge of Manchester, is pleasnat enough, having much of the atmosphere of a dormitory suburb with views of woods and distant moorland. It comes as a shock, therefore, to encounter three-storey blocks of flats in peaceful avenues with their windows smashed and entrances boarded up.

The reason is not hooliganism but the Government's action last autumn in freezing all further local authority housing spending. Manchester City Council, about to embark on a programme of modernizing prewar "walk-ups", which are unpopular because of condensation from inadequate heating and because access is uncontrolled, was forced to abandon its plans and to leave the buildings empty.

Mr John Smith, chairman of the housing committee, admits, "We are constantly criticized in the local press because of the number of empty council flats. But the contractors insist on the blocks being emptied while modernization is carried out.

"Since the moratorium on spending began, we have not been able to let any new contracts, the contractors have had to lay people off, we have lost thousands of pounds in rents, and, when work does start, it will cost more because of inflation. Where is the sense in it all?"

The impact so far on new building projects has not been too serious, he says. In some cases, because of the slump in construction, contractors have been willing to start work and wait until April to be paid.

But, like most other local authorities, Manchester would have probably reduced its new building programme in any case and have spent proportionately more on rehabilitation. It is there that the pinch is being felt.

Manchester is a law abiding council, Mr Smith points out. "We implement as far as possible the policies laid down by the Government, and in return we expect some consideration. Instead, we are being clobbered.

"The city has a very good record in not overspending. Why should the Government impose a blanket moratorium, instead of just penalizing the overspenders? We have enough to contend with, with shrinking resources, without this."

Historically, Manchester and Liverpool have tended to go their separate ways, and housing proves no exception. Whereas more than 55 per cent of all housing in Manchester is municipally owned, Liverpool, particularly in the last few years of Liberal/Conservative control, has placed the emphasis on home ownership. It was one of the first authorities to encourage low-cost buildings for sale on council land.

Indeed, Mr Richard Kemp, the youthful Liberal chairman of the housing committee, claims that most of the Government's schemes for encouraging ownership were borrowed from his party. "They should have been introduced 20 years ago, but ironically it was the Tories who insisted on continuing to build huge council estates. Ideally, Liverpool should have only about 25,000 council properties, instead of 78,000."

He sees the drive for home ownership as part of a broader campaign to improve the city's class and social balance. "Really we ought to be building houses for rich people", he says in apparent seriousness. "What Liverpool needs above all is more wealthy inhabitants. A dominance of council tenants only fosters the ghetto mentality."

Belief in the benefits of more widespread ownership is not confined to the council, he points out, nor does it show itself simply in allowing private firms to build semi-detached houses for sale on vacant municipal sites. Housing associations have been equ active

"Liverpool has the most s cessful programme of hous action areas and general provement areas in Britai Mr Kemp says. "The build societies have seen that works, and have been very operative."

In the coming year the co cil has no new build schemes, apart from four sl tered blocks for old peo But it had intended a "bli operation on its 4,000 em properties and improveme to large estates, such as th at Netherley and Belle Va which have been seriously v dalized. The whole program is now in jeopardy.

Next: Renovat

An example of neglected repairs: Houses in Hawthorn Grove, Liverpool.

New body to aid London travel

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

A joint "think tank" is being set up by British Rail and London Transport to coordinate public transport fares and services throughout the London area.

It is headed by the two chairmen, Sir Peter Parker, of British Rail, and Sir Peter Masefield, of London Transport. Other members include Mr Geoffrey Myers, British Rail Board member for marketing, and Mr David Cobbett, strategic planner, and Dr Tony Ridley and Dr David Quarmby, respectively managing directors for rail and bus at London Transport.

A prime aim is joint ticketing to facilitate through journeys by travellers, for example from Newcastle to Elephant and Castle, in London, with both systems covered by a single ticket purchased from either source. This practice is common in large European cities, but only patchily available in London.

Closer coordination of fares and services, which vary widely even over the same route, is another target, and rationalization to cut out duplication and give an improved service at lower cost.

Better interchange between bus, Underground and surface rail is also to be sought, for example by the installation of moving walkways between places like Euston and Euston Square, and Fenchurch Street and Tower Hill.

Coordination of this kind was long seen as desirable but has been frustrated by the conflicting interests and loyalties of the two bodies, reinforced by their loyalty to different masters, the Department of Transport in the case of British Rail and the Greater London Council for London Transport.

At present central and local government are both Conservative-controlled but that will change in May if Labour wins power at County Hall on a platform of lower fares and higher subsidies, conflicting with national policies of financial stringency.

Convention 'does not give right to ignore union'

By Marcel Berlins

The right to join a trade union laid down in the European Convention on Human Rights did not imply that there was a right not to join a union, Sir Ian Percival, QC, the Solicitor General, argued before the European Court of Human Rights in Srasbourg yesterday.

He was contending on behalf of the United Kingdom Government that the dismissal by British Rail in 1976 of three railwaymen who refused to join a union after a closed shop agreement did not contravene the convention.

"Of course, what happened to these men was disgraceful and we have always said so", Sir Ian said. "Of course, there was a violation of human rights in the general sense of those words."

That did not amount, however, to a violation of any right in the convention, he went on. The "heart and soul" of the matter was the interpretation of article 11 of the convention, which protected the right to "freedom of association with others, includin gthe right to form and to join trade unions...."

"There is no way it can be spelled out in the words used in the convention that there is a right not to be compelled to join a union.

Sir Ian pointed out that the introduced the Employment Act 1980, because it had always strongly opposed the fact that the previous law passed by the Labour government gave dismissed employees no remedy if they refused to join a union for other than religious reasons.

Recession cuts number of blood donors

By Nicholas Timmins

The economic recession has affected Britain's blood transfusion service. Two regions are running intensive recruiting campaigns for donors, and others are having to reorganize their schedules.

Factory closures, short-time working and redundancies have reduced the number of donors giving blood at work, while hospitals' demand for blood is increasing.

In Manchester a campaign to recruit 20,000 new donors starts this week and in London a campaign spread over five months has been organized to maintain the number of donors.

London's difficulties, which were fairly acute late last year, have been eased by radio and poster advertising.

Nalgo ends Lambeth house sales action

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Union action to prevent the sale of council houses to tenants in the London Borough of Lambeth was called off last night after Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, had told the Commons that it represented "the most serious abuse" of the law.

Members of the National and Local Government Officers Association had for five months withheld mail containing applications from tenants to buy their homes. The union refused to handle the mail until more staff were taken on to carry out the extra work.

The decision to call off the action was recommended by the union's national emergency committee. Mr Brian Martin, branch assistant secretary, said that all correspondence about house sales, believed to be 300 to 400 letters, would be forwarded with the next few days.

He added that industrial action would continue in other ways. The council has started an inquiry into the matter, directed by Mr Frank Dixon Ward, the chief executive.

In the Commons Mr Stanley said that Lambeth was one of 16 local authorities being investigated because of their slow progress in implementing legislation contained in the Housing Act.

The others are Bolsover, Bristol, Doncaster, Great Yarmouth, Hull, Leeds, Manchester, Sheffield, Sunderland, Stoke-on-Trent, Wolverhampton, Barking and Dagenham, Camden, Greenwich, and Newham.

The Department of the Environment had received about 2,000 letters from tenants complaining about delay, Mr Stanley said. Each complaint was being pursued by the department.

Mr Kight's proposal: Mr Ted Knight, leader of Lambeth borough council, who has in the past refused to contemplate reductions in services, has now proposed a reduction of up to 10 per cent. If approved, that could mean a rate increase of 37.5 per cent instead of 57.9 per cent.

In a letter to members of the Labour majority Mr Knight says that the increase of 57.9 per cent which would be produced if the present spending programme was maintained would be "unacceptable to Labour voters and would continue the opposition generated by the supplementary rate".

By reducing spending, Mr Knight believes, services can still be protected and redundancies can be avoided.

Parliamentary report, page 9
Rates injustice, page 16

In brief

Farmers predict beef shortage

Farmers gave a warning yesterday of a beef shortage after a government census had shown a reduction in the number of cattle in Britain.

The National Farmers' Union said: "The recent long period of depressed producer returns will lead to future supply shortages. Beef cow numbers are 430,000 below their 1975 peak, and dairy cow numbers have fallen by nearly 100,000 over the past two years."

More steam services

British Rail is to run more steam trains between York and Scarborough this summer after last year's financial success. Eight restored locomotives will be used on the 84-mile round trip, including the Flying Scotsman and the streamlined Sir Nigel Gresley.

Archie Gemmill fined

Archie Gemmill, aged 33, the Scottish football captain, who plays for Birmingham City, was fined £60 yesterday at Dumfries Sheriff Court after admitting driving on the A74 in Dumfriesshire last October at speeds of between 94 and 96 mph.

Petrol strike to end

The petrol shortage in the Republic of Ireland is expected to be relieved this weekend after the executive of the tanker drivers' union agreed yesday to recommend acceptance of a £23-a-week rise.

Beatles decline

None of the three members of the former Beatles group will attend the religious service at Liverpool Cathedral dedicated to the memory of John Lennon, the former Beatle, who was shot dead in New York.

£100m drugs wasted

Drugs costing the National Health Service £100m a year are thrown away unused, Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health, told pharmacists in London last night.

Soho rates advice

The Soho Society, in London, has advised residents and traders to apply for rate reductions on the ground that the value of their properties has declined because of the proliferation of sex shops.

Jessie Matthews ill

Miss Jessie Matthews, aged 74, the actress, is being treated at St Vincent's Orthopaedic Hospital, Harrow, north London, for a trapped nerve in her neck.

Health planning jobs for wartime opposed

By Annabel Ferriman

War planning officers are being appointed by the health service to draw up contingency plans in cese of nuclear attack.

A total of £400,000 is being given to regional health authorities for war planning purposes. The grants, of £28,500 each, are to run from April 1. The Department of Health and Social Security is distributing them but they are coming out of the Home Office budget.

The north western authority, the first to seek a war planning adviser, has just advertised in the *British Medical Journal* offering a salary of between £12,000 and £20,000.

Instructions to regional health authorities were first sent out in 1977 in a circular entitled *Organization of the Health Service for War*. Its message was reinforced by the Home Secretary's statement last August that the Government was increasing its commitment to home defence.

Implementation of the circular is being opposed by at least one of the 200 community health councils, the watchdogs of the health service.

The Southmead council Bristol, has passed a resolut saying that the regional area health authorities sho not put any time or money i planning for war.

Mr James Janes, a mem of the Southmead Commu Health Council and of A County Council, who propo the resolution, said yesterc that it was impossible to pl for nuclear war.

He said doctors in the a supported him and felt t instructions in the circu saying that in the crisis per leading up to war all patie should be discharged fr hospital, went against th Hippocratic oath.

"All these plans are pretence to the population t there is a defence aga nuclear war."

But the decision to appo a war planning adviser in north western region was fended yesterday by its medi officer, Dr A. J. Lane.

He said that preparing health service for war. v second in importance only planning the country's fo supply. Careful planning co save five million lives.

Lack of work led school-leaver to commit suicide

From Our Correspondent
Preston

Michael Garrety, aged 17, killed himself by jumping from a railway bridge because he was jobless, an inquest was told yesterday.

He was killed as he touched an overhead cable, but a pathologist said his injuries would also have killed him.

The hearing at Preston was told that the boy, who lived with his parents at Penworthan, Preston, left school at 16. Three months later he became an engineering apprentice but was made redundant after six months.

Mr William Garrety, his father, said the difficulty of getting another job was very upsetting to his son, who was trying a government welding course but did not think it would lead to a job.

A verdict of suicide was returned. The coroner, Mr Howard McCann, said: "He was a conscientious young man who had perhaps become the victim of the economic climate".

Photograph by Jonathan Playor

Chessington Zoo hopes that these ostriches from Zimbabwe will mate, but their sex will not be known until adult plumage grows.

Park landing in air jailbreak plot is alleged

By Richard Ford

A gang of seven people considered using Finsbury Park, in north London, as a landing place in a plan to lift a prisoner out of Brixton jail by helicopter, it was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

When police raided a flat and arrested three of the alleged conspirators and a fourth man they found a street guide to London which had a mark over the park. "That may have been one of the places contemplated for a helicopter to land. It would need a piece of open space for the rescuers and their prize to make good their escape", Mr David Jeffreys, for the prosecution, said.

Elsewhere in the flat in Holland Park, west London, detectives discovered two Browning automatic pistols, ammunition, £2,735 in notes, and documents

Bottles of hair colouring liquid were found in the flat and at the home of another alleged conspirator, Margaret Parratt, and it was alleged that this was significant because of evidence that two of the accused, Robert Campbell and Richard Glenholmes, changed their appearance.

Mr Jeffreys alleged that Mr Campbell was the chief organizer of the plan and that with his lieutenant, Mr Glenholmes, he made trips to Ireland to recruit Robert Storey and the fourth man

Brian Keenan, aged 39, and the other accused all deny conspiring between March 25 and December 13, 1979, to effect his escape.

The others are: Mr Campbell, aged 38, of Holland Park, west London; Mrs Parratt, aged 34, of Southgate, north London; Jacqueline O'Malley, aged 31, of Notting Hill, west London; Mr Glenholmes, aged 47, of Holland Park; Christine Keenan, aged 44, of Northern Ireland; and Mr Storey, aged 24, of Holland Park.

Mr Campbell, Mr Glenholmes and Mr Storey also deny three charges of possessing firearms.

The hearing continues today.

Public funds plea to support music and drama

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

Appeals for more public funds to help the music and acting professions to survive were made yesterday before a Commons committee investigating the public and private funding of the arts.

The Education, Science and Arts Select Committee was given written evidence by the Musicians' Union and Equity, the actors' union, emphasizing the gravity of the crisis in both areas.

Equity described the British theatre as "the paupers of Europe" and the musicians submitted that employment opportunities essential to the preservation of the British music profession had seriously diminished in the past year.

"By way of illustration", the union said, "the record industry, which has been seriously affected by the growth of home copying and widespread piracy, is in a serious state of recession."

Mr John Patrick, chairman of the union's national executive committee, said the distribution of Arts Council money favoured a particular kind of music.

Royal Opera's regional tours at risk

From R. W. Shakespeare
Manchester

The Royal Opera's first f season outside London for years could be its last unl local authorities in the M chester area have a change heart about the amount money they are prepared provide.

Sir John Tooley, Gene Director of the Royal Ope House, said yesterday that was dismayed and alarmed a decision of Greater Manch ter Council's recreation a arts committee to make a gra of only £5,000 towards t company's three-week season the Palace Theatre, Manchest in May.

Sir John said the compa had been hoping to receive grant of about £100,000 fro the Greater Manchester aut ority and the Manchester Ci Council. So far the city counc has not decided on a figure f its share of subsidy, but earli this week Greater Manchest voted to give £5,000.

Even though the season likely to be fully booked it wi probably show a loss of abo £160,000, Sir John said.

120 MPs join campaign for Bill of Rights

By Frances Gibb

About 120 MPs have joined a campaign to press the Government for a Commons debate on a private member's Bill promoted by Lord Wade for a Bill of Rights, due to come before the House tomorrow.

Despite four attempts by Lord Wade to steer his controversial Bill through Parliament, two of which succeeded in the Lords, it has never been debated in the Commons.

Mr Alan Beith, MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed, the Liberals' Chief Whip, is leading a campaign for sufficient support to ensure that the Government does not "object" to the Bill's second reading.

He has tabled an early day motion calling for a debate on the Bill, which has attracted 119 signatures, including Liberals, members of the new Council for Social Democracy and many Conservatives.

Mr Beith said yesterday: "It is outrageous that this Bill on a matter of major importance has gone through the Lords twice, commanding the support of many eminent peers and lawyers, and yet has not even been debated

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had promised all-party talks on the issue before a debate but they had failed to take place, he said. "Many members of the Government have in the past talked about the need to safeguard the individual's rights, but all that now seems to be forgotten."

Although no Labour MPs have so far signed the early day motion, there is support within the party.

The Bill would make the European Convention on Human Rights enforceable in British courts. At present, although Britain is a signatory to the convention and in January renewed the right of individuals to petition the European Commission of Human Rights, its articles are not part of British law.

Mr Beith said the Bill was important to safeguard rights in Britain.

Inquiry demand after security services error

By Our Political Staff

A full Home Office inquiry and a report to Parliament on the case of Mrs Jan Martin, about whom the security services passed false information to a private employer, were demanded last night by Mr James Wellbeloved, Labour MP for Bexley, Erith and Crayford.

Writing to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, he said an apology by Scotland Yard was not enough.

The country was entitled to an assurance that the security services and police had a system "in efficient hands".

'Moral mandate' to help the disabled

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Dafydd Wigley, Plaid Cymru MP for Caernarvon, said yesterday that he had "a moral mandate" for his Disabled Persons Bill, which seeks to make further provision for access to public buildings for disabled people.

More than half of the 635 MPs have signed the all-party motion calling for legislarive action. But his Bill has been blocked during the past three weeks on days allocated to private members' Bills by MPs who have shouted "Object" when there has been a chance for it to go through "on the nod".

A delegation from the all-party disablement group, including Mr Jack Ashley (Lab, Stoke-on-Trent, South) and Mr John Hannam (Con, Exeter), joint chairmen, went with Mr Wigley on Tuesday to see Mr Hugh Rossi, Minister of State for Health and Social Security, who has responsibility for the disabled, and Mr Giles Shaw, Under-Secretary of State in the Department of the Environment, to clear up ambiguities on the effect the Bill would have on planning laws.

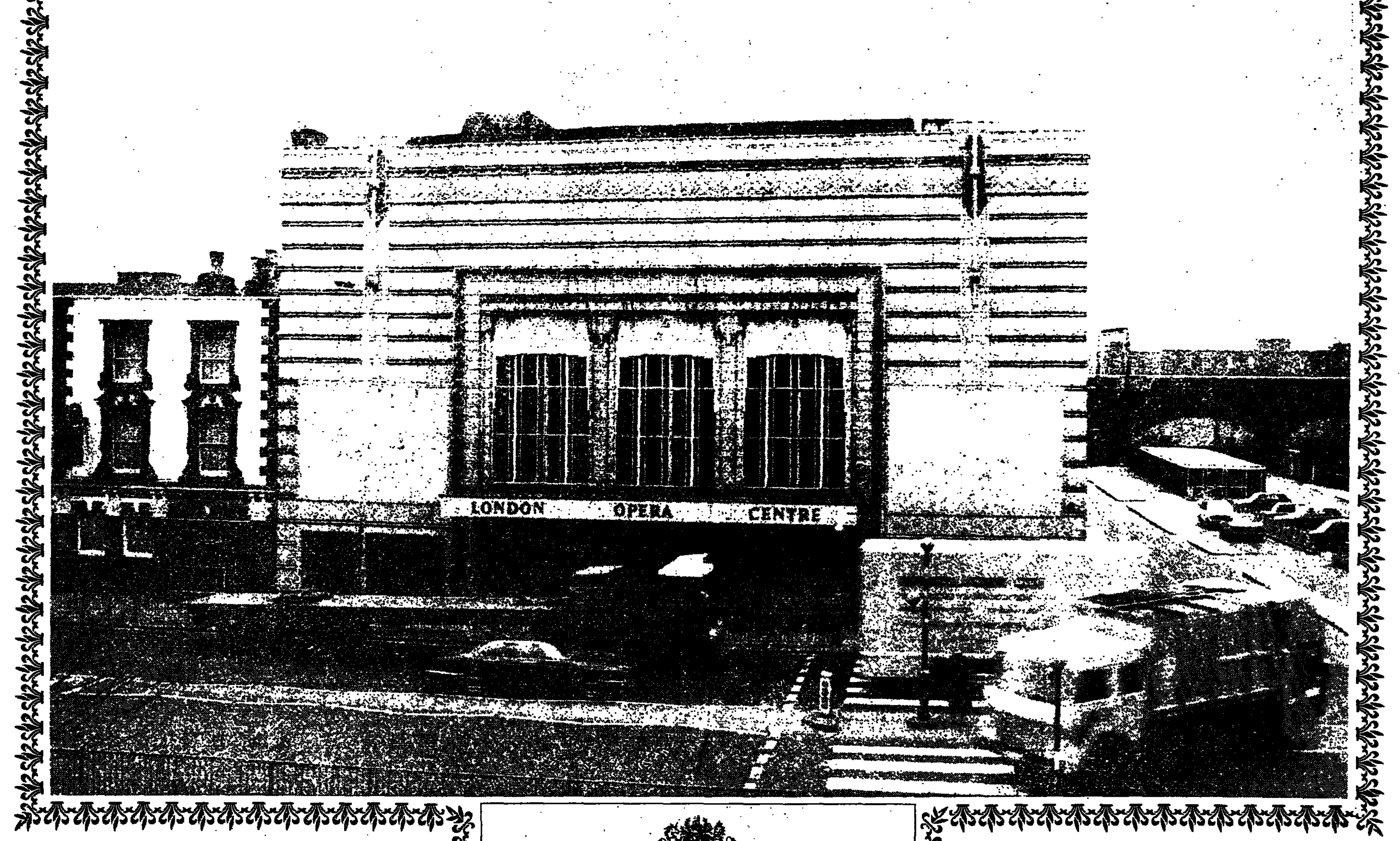
"There are still some drafting problems to be overcome and I have some worries about the timetable for the Bill", Mr Wigley said yesterday, "but otherwise it appears that there is every prospect of making progress, albeit with a rather more limited Bill".

Unclaimed benefits: Thousands of pounds in state benefits i left unclaimed by disable people who are unaware o their entitlements under th law, according to a report pub lished yesterday by th National Association of Cit zens' Advice Bureaux (a Staf Reporter writes).

A survey conducted by th Chapeltown bureau has show that the total of unclaime benefits among 39 households of disabled, housebound peopl picked at random, was £9,000 a year.

One of the biggest categorie of unclaimed benefit, some 30 per cent of the sample, was attendance allowance, the benefit for disabled people

Disability Project Report (NACAB, 110 Drury Lane, London WC2).



The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, urgently needs funds for modernisation.

IN the picture above you see what used to be the Troxy Cinema. It is now the London Opera Centre. Situated far down the Commercial Road, it isn't really central to anything. Yet for the past 16 years this is where Covent Garden operas have been rehearsed, a good hour's journey from the Royal Opera House itself.

The Royal Ballet fares no better.

It rehearses in Hammersmith, several miles in the other direction.

The massive sets in which the artists appear can be found, if you know where to look, stacked in more than a dozen warehouses all over London and as far away as Maidstone in Kent.

It all points, obviously, to lack of space. There is no room backstage at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. There is no room to rehearse, no room to make up, to wash or to change, no room to eat, to relax, to store the hundreds of costumes. There is no room to change scenes.

THE BACKSTAGE DRAMA.

Every measurement comparing Covent Garden's backstage facilities with those of other major opera houses in Europe and the USA shows our own to be unbelievably impractical.

With a performing stage hardly smaller than that of the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, Covent Garden has less than one-third of the Met's dressing-room and rehearsal space.

The Met has 17,500 square feet of rear and side stage in which to manipulate vast operatic sets during performances and between productions. Our Royal Opera House has no rear stage and no side stage at all.

Conditions which a Parliamentary sub-committee described as "appalling" over 10 years ago have to be enormously improved if the Royal Opera House is to carry on functioning. These improvements entail an initial development plan that will cost at least £9 million.

The Royal Opera House Development Appeal, launched early in 1979, has already raised considerable sums from HM Government, the Greater London Council and private sources. These last have ranged from the pocket-money of young ballet and opera lovers to the thousands contributed by trusts and private companies, including 20 German firms operating in Britain.

The total needed was £7.8 million. Incredibly this was reached by November 1980. But, because of inflation, every month's delay has added £60,000 to the original building costs.

Phase One of the development, for which the balance of £850,000 is so desperately needed, will provide behind the existing Opera House a building almost as large again to accommodate opera and ballet studios, a chorus rehearsal room, dressing-rooms, an opera wardrobe, offices, improved wardrobe maintenance, general storage facilities and a stage-door complex. A later phase, for which further funds will be needed, will at last provide side and rear stage facilities and includes the reconstruction of about half the adjacent Floral Hall.

BRING YOUR OWN CARPETS.

Nothing has yet been said about working conditions during performances. Prima ballerinas and prima donnas (one of whom gamely brings her own carpets and curtains) are provided with embarrassingly mean dressing rooms that would disgrace the sleaziest of hotels, with the nearest shower and lavatory two flights of stairs away.

Inevitably the chorus comes off even worse. For a really large production as many as 100 members of the male chorus have to share a washroom with only four showers and 13 hand basins discharging into an open drain.

And so it goes on. And so, miraculously, do magnificent productions. Night after night out of the backstage chaos comes – sometimes with tellingly long pauses between scenes – the illusion that all is well at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. The audience, at least, may count itself blessed. E. M. Barry's superb auditorium defines for many people throughout the world what an opera house should be.

FOR THE PRICE OF A TICKET...

Our Appeal has already raised over £8 million from numerous small donations as well as from a few very big ones.

Please don't feel that the final £850,000 is hopelessly out of proportion to what you can afford. Anything at all will help – the price of a ticket, say.

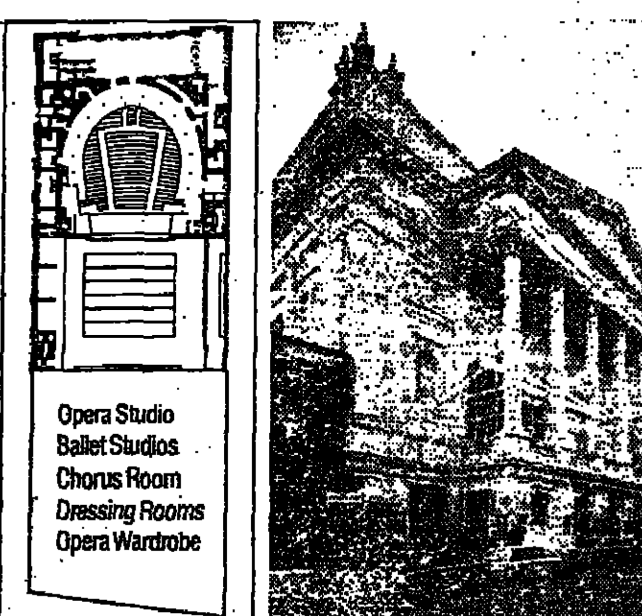
Gifts of covenant greatly increase the value of any donation. For example, £20 covenanted over four years is actually worth £100 to the Opera House. Or four companies each covenanting £1,000 will actually be giving £20,000 between them.

You can have more information about our plans and about covenants and interest-free loans from the address below. Or you can telephone 01-240 1200.

If you would simply like to send a cheque, please make it payable to Royal Opera House *Development Appeal and send it to Director,* Royal Opera House Development Appeal, Covent Garden, London. WC2E 7QA.

Royal Opera House Development Appeal.

(Registered Charity No. 211775)



Herr Franz Josef Strauss settles for mineral water before a speech yesterday at Passau in Bavaria. His wife, Marianne, tries something a little more Teutonic.

Coalition seen as best chance of saving the Spanish democracy

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, March 4

Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Spanish Prime Minister, is under pressure to form a coalition government in order to meet the problems raised by last week's attempted military coup.

Señor Calvo Sotelo chose last Thursday, when forming his administration, to continue with the Suárez ministers, all from the Centre Democratic Union (UCD).

But today, as he met various political leaders, both Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Socialists' secretary-general, and Señor Manuel Fraga, leader of the conservative Democratic Coalition, spoke in favour of a coalition.

Leaders of industry and the business community, previously opposed to the Socialists in government, appear to be more in favour of a coalition. They see it as the best way that Spain can demonstrate its attachment to the European democratic model and the European Community.

Today, Señor Calvo Sotelo first saw Señor Jordi Pujol, Chief Minister of the Generalitat, the Catalans' autonomous regional government.

The Socialists are said to be thinking in terms of five Cabinet posts if they are invited to join with an equivalent number of civil governorships—the Spanish version of the prefectorial system in the provinces.

Señor Gonzalez, in an interview with *El Pais* the independent daily, said it was clear that Spain's democratic neighbours were "not doing all they could" to help save this country's new democracy.

But he also said that any Spaniards who might sympathize with the plotters must realize that another dictatorship would cost Spain its links with the democracies and its hopes of European integration.

The Socialists would be making big sacrifices in a coalition, he said, but he gave EEC membership and the strengthening of Spain's democratic institutions as prime reasons why all political forces now had to make an effort to agree a programme of government until 1983, the date fixed by the constitution for the next general election.

Señor Fraga, who argues for a "government of national salvation" as the answer, said that a broad-based government would not upset the military and was the only way to prevent a new anti-constitutional attempt to seize power.

If things simply went on as before, he warned Señor Calvo Sotelo, there would be a new attempt to seize power because the causes which led to the attempted coup—terrorism and the absence of proper communications between politicians and the military and between the military and the King—would remain.

The Prime Minister rejected the Socialist leader's first public offer during the Cortes debate last week, preferring the formula of concerted cooperation on certain basic issues, notably strengthening the democratic state.

He may feel obliged to continue this approach for party reasons but Señor Calvo Sotelo is a pragmatist.

In the past few days King Juan Carlos has twice urged Spanish politicians to sink party differences. In his audience with the leaders after the attempted coup he gave a warning that the monarchy could not always be intervening, a clear call to the politicians to shoulder their responsibilities for saving democracy.

The coalition idea has gained ??????? approval, ranging from the communists, who have offered to support a coalition from outside, if the socialists join, to ABC, the conservative monarchist daily, which has spoken in favour of a coalition twice in three days.

Prosecutions approved: Spanish publications that approved last week's coup attempt are to be prosecuted, Señor José Maria Gil Albert, the state prosecutor announced in Madrid today.

He also said that right-wing extremists who chanted slogans supporting Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero Molina at a public meeting last Sunday in Murcia, will be prosecuted. Colonel Tejero led the take-over of the Cortes.—Agence France-Presse.

Officers indicted: With right-wing terrorists threatening an atrocity in the northern Basque country, military authorities indicted 23 right-wing officers today for their part in the attempted coup.

The Spanish Basque battalion, blamed for 21 assassinations last year, claimed the killing of a worker yesterday and threatened a mass attack that political sources said would spur the military into new rebellion.

"We are organized to kill 200 of the most prominent nationalists in a single night", an anonymous telephone caller told the newspaper *Deia*. He also said: "Long live Spain and long live Tejero".—UPI.

Terrorists shoot Turkish diplomats

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 4

Armenian terrorists struck again in Paris today. A Turkish diplomat was killed and another seriously injured by two gunment at lunchtime in the Rue Amelot, near the Bastille.

An anonymous caller later informed the French news agency in excellent French that responsibility for the killing was claimed by the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia. "Our struggle is against the fascist regime and will continue until the complete liberation of Armenian territories," the caller added.

The shooting took place when three members of the Turkish Embassy staff left their offices in an annexe of the embassy which deals with Turkish workers in France and were getting into their parked car on the corner of the Rue Amelot. One was already in the driver's seat and the others were about to get into the car when two men opened fire with automatic weapons. Witnesses said that they fired about 10 shots. One of their guns was fitted with a silencer.

Mr Tecelli Ari, aged 35, the Assistant Labour Attaché of the embassy, collapsed on the seat of the car. The other two attempted to escape and one succeeded in taking cover in a shop near by. But Mr Resat Morali, aged 37, the Labour Attaché, fell a few yards away, fatally injured. The two gunmen fled on foot in the direction of the Bastille Métro station.

A few minutes later police arrested a young man at the station who was found to be in possession of a revolver. But it was later established that the calibre of his weapon did not correspond to the numerous bullet marks found on the vehicles and its barrel was cold. He was not an Armenian. He was detained for further questioning however.

Mr Resat Morali was married to a Frenchwoman and had three children. He had been in France for 12 years. He is the third Turkish diplomat to be assassinated in the French capital in the last five years by the same organiaztion which has also been responsible for bomb attacks against Turkish organizations in Paris.

France accused: The Turkish Government condemned the assassination and said France had not taken necessary steps to prevent such attacks (AP reports from Ankara).

"The attack clearly demonstrates the existence of a secret Armenian terrorist organization", Mr Ilhan Evliyaoglu, the Tourism Minister, said. He said the French authorities "have failed to take necessary measures to prevent such attacks" by suspected Armenian terrorists.

He called on France to "take immediate and effective measures

Dali works stolen

Paris, March 4.—Salvador Dali etchings worth £54,500 were stolen from a left-luggage locker at a Paris railway station, police said today.

Editors charged with spreading false information

From Our Correspondent
Valletta, March 4

Mr Michael Schiavone, the acting editor, and his brother Mario, a reporter of **In Nazzjon Taghna**, the newspaper of Malta's opposition Nationalist Party, were charged today with the spreading of false information.

Mr Charles Grechorr, the editor, and Mr Victor Aquilina, a reporter of the independent daily **The Times**, as well as Mr Michael Mallia, the company's manager, were also charged in a magistrate's court with spreading false information.

The charges emanate from reports carried by the two newspapers last month about the alleged throwing of an explosive at a group of industrialists as they left the offices of the Federation of Industries.

Mr Mallia is understood to be one of the industrialists in the group and his charge includes the passing on of a fragment of explosive to a newspaper, which was unauthorized to receive it, thus hindering the investigation.

Tax returns burnt

Paris, March 4.—A grudging taxpayer was blamed today by police for a fire which destroyed 300 income-tax returns in a Paris town hall letter-box.

Greek publisher arrested at Athens airport

From Mario Modiano
Athens, March 4

Mr Makis Kouris, a Sunday newspaper publisher, was arrested at Athens airport today while attempting to leave the country, just before the Appeal Court here confirmed his two-year prison sentence for defamation of Mr George Rallis, the Prime Minister.

The court upheld the verdict of a lower court which ruled that Mr Kouris's paper *Avriani* had slandered Mr Rallis by claiming that he had used his influence to lower the customs duties on sportswear imported and sold in Greece by his wife's firm.

The court accepted that the custom's classifications had remained unchanged since 1962, when neither Mr Rallis was Prime Minister, nor Mrs Rallis was in the sportswear business.

Mr Rallis who took the stand at today's hearing, accused Mr Kouris and his newspaper of trying to undermine his prestige as Prime Minister by resorting to calumnies.

While he spoke a slight earth-tremor caused a shower of plaster dust to fall from the ceiling, already damaged by last week's severe shock. This prompted pleas by the lawyers that the law courts should be moved elsewhere.

The defence lawyers walked out of the courtroom when the appeal judges rejected their request that Mr Rallis should be asked to produce some articles of sportswear to establish the difference in the customs classification.

With them went Mr Kouris, who drove directly to the airport in an attempt to fly abroad. He was detained on the ground that a court sentence had been passed on him.

Mr Ioannis Stamoulis, his counsel, said tonight that his client had been illegally detained at the airport for one and a half hours before the court's verdict was passed.

Mr Kouris was later escorted to Korydallos prison, near Piraeus, to serve his sentence. His brother, Mr George Kouris, the publisher of the daily newspaper Avriani is in London.

He was sentenced to four years imprisonment for suggesting in his newspaper that President Karamanl is, when he was Prime Minister, had misappropriated a cheque for $5m (2.3m) donated by Mrs Christina Onassis in aid of the Greek armed forces. Proof was produced in court that the donation had been recorded in the state budget.

Mr George Kouris, who had also walked out of the court during the hearings last December, later left the country clandestinely.

Doctors at abortion clinic given jail sentences

From Our Own Correspondent

Eight doctors from a Paris clinic were given prison sentences today for carrying out abortions after the legal limit of 10 weeks, for exceeding the legally permitted number of abortions in the clinic and for charging excessive fees for the operations.

The verdict was greeted with protests in the public gallery. The heaviest sentence was six years imprisonment and a fine of 120,000 francs (£10,000). Five of the sentences were suspended.

In his summing up, the public prosecutor condemned all who practised illegal abortions habitually. He rejected the political argument that the clinic had dealt with cases of distress which state hospitals refused to handle.

Defence counsel for one of the doctors had earlier said in court that the law legalizing abortion under strict conditions was the only big reform of President Giscard d'Estaing's term in office. "It has given women the sovereign right to decide subjectively their fate in full knowledge of the facts."

"But, from religious conviction or an attitude of corporate defence, part of the medical profession refuses to accept the idea of the freedom of women, and has done its best to put brakes on the application of the law."

The women of the poor district of Paris where the clinic was located, were underprivileged and less well informed than those of the wealthy classes. Out of 14 cases before the court, there were three minors, four abandoned women and three ill ones who were afraid of having subnormal children.

If the doctor had been cautious, he would have sent this human misery on its way, counsel said. "But one wants to make an example of him. This example will fill the aircraft for England and will not reduce the number of abortions in France."

Italians lose their faith in the political system

From Peter Nichols
Rome, March 4

Parties and politicians head the list of hat the public feels is rong ith Italy and needs to be changed, according to an opinion poll.

A long ay behind come the comparatively minor irritants of inflation, crime, terrorism and unemployment.

The inquiry by the Doxa survey as conducted in December and the findings are published no et a time hen political life is passing through a period full of uncertainties.

Various suggestions have been put forard in the past few months to bring some vitality to the political scene.

They include the Communist decision to abandon the idea of seeking a place in a coalition with the governing Christian Democrats in favour of working for an adminstration actually led by the Communists, the Socialist bid for the prime ministership which until now has been a Christian Democrat monopoly and, most disturbing of all to the politicians, the proposal put forward by Signor Bruno Visentini, chairman of the Republican Party, for a government free of ties with faction and much more independent of the parties which would seek individual majorities on issues as they rose.

The state of opinion reflected in the Doxa survey in part accounts for the somewhat desperate fertility with which these ideas are blooming.

More than four fifths of those questioned thought that the state was doing badly and less than 5 per cent thought it was doing well. On the seriousness and honesty of ministers, only 3 per cent thought all was well while almost 85 per cent thought that the ministers carried out their duties badly, of whom 57 per cent went as far as saying very badly.

Most striking is the speed with which faith in the system has disappeared. In 1967, only 35 per cent felt they had a badly functioning state. Since then the proportion has more than doubled.

Islamic peace mission returning to Saudi Arabia after presenting proposals to Tehran

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, March 4

An Islamic peace mission was due to return to Saudi Arabia tonight after presenting "basic elements" of a proposal to end the five-month Gulf war to the leaders of both Iran and Iraq.

The 12-member mission, representing seven Muslim countries and the Palestine Liberation Organization, left for Baghdad this afternoon after a brief stop-over in Tehran and was due to fly on to Jiddah in the evening.

Sources close to the talks said that much at this stage depended on the response of the Iraqis to the proposals. As these required an immediate Iraqi withdrawal after a ceasefire, the sources were not over-optimistic.

The official Pars news agency reported that after arriving from Saudi Arabia this morning the delegation met Iran's Supreme Defence Council and presented a "plan to end the war".

Rather than a plan, however, they presented "some basic elements of a settlement of the dispute", in the words of a diplomatic source close to the negotiations.

The source added that the plan involved supervision by neutral "Islamic observers" of a ceasefire and consequent withdrawal of Iraqi troops to borders fixed under the 1975 Algiers agreement.

Negotiations would then be held to revise that agreement, also with Islamic mediation. The source said that the delegation had suggested separating these negotiations from those over the disputed Shatt al-Arab waterway between the two countries which would take much longer.

The delegation suggested that the waterway could meanwhile be supervised by independent observers to ensure free navigation.

The matter of the three Iranian islands at the entrance to the strategic Hormuz Strait at the mouth of the Gulf, which Iraq has insisted should be returned to Arab control, has not been brought up, the source added.

Despite the plethora of hard-line statements from Iranian officials in recent days, the delegation has been encouraged by Iran's response in the talks themselves.

"To a man everyone has been quite moderate", another source close to the negotiations said. "Only the President has spoken for the Iranians but none of the hardliners on the Defence Council have indicated any dissent. I really do not understand all these public positions. They are quite different from reality."

One such statement came from Mr Muhammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister and a member of the Defence Council, tonight after the delegation had left. He said: "We shall fight on and resist until the aggressor is identified and punished . . . until it is completely certain the aggression has ceased and its effects removed."

The reality it self is that the proposals as they stand would be very much to Iran's gain and Iraq's loss. The diplomatic sources conceded that they would represent a "moral victory for Iran".

World View — by Arrigo Levi

Time Nato reassessed alliance relationship

This is a time for a general review of political strategies and operational mechanisms in international affairs. The global balance of power and the map of the world have undergone substantial changes that demand a renewed examination of accepted truths.

The latest such effort, already reported on by Richard Davy in this newspaper, is the joint report of the principal foreign affairs institutes of Britain, France, West Germany and the United States.

In reading their analysis one is struck by its similarity with most other reviews of the world situation undertaken by experts and governments in the past couple of years. This is a good thing. It reveals the gradual emergence of a consensus in the West.

There is a consensus, first, in the assessment of those fundamental changes that affect Western security: the relative increase in Soviet military power; the explosive mixture of Soviet weaknesses and strengths; the almost uncontrollable instability of the Third World; and the high degree of Western dependence on resources in areas no longer controlled by the West.

There is also widespread agreement (though with some American reluctance to concede this fact) about United States inadequacy to guarantee the world balance of power and Western security as it has done in the past almost by itself or with a limited amount of allied support in some areas (mostly Europe).

From such premises the four authors correctly draw the conclusion that a new alliance relationship must come into being.

Less than a year ago in London Mr Kiichi Miyazawa, the Japanese statesman, emphasized all these points, which are common to most Western analyses, and suggested in a great speech that the making of Western foreign policy should become "a collective exercise". The four authors go beyond this assessment.

First, they suggest that Europe should take a military role beyond Nato borders, and that Europe and Japan should directly support the United States presence in the Gulf.

The report also makes two main proposals on policy coordination. The first is that the seven nations summit meeting should be devoted to political as well as economic affairs and that a permanent secretariat should insure its systematic preparation.

The second is that groups of "principal nations" should deal with particular conflict areas (starting with the Middle East) coordinating policies and planning common actions.

The special groups would always include the five main powers: the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Japan, as well as some lesser power especially interested in each particular crisis. The first group, dealing with the Middle East, should be limited to the big five.

Such an approach is one of the two main ones studied in recent years in the West. The other approach would aim at setting up a permanent all-embracing mechanism for the coordination of Western foreign policy, fashioned along lines similar to those of European political cooperation, but including the United States and Japan.

The approach chosen by the new report, based on the "principal powers" and on ad hoc working groups, is more practical: but it has the disadvantage of creating potential resentment and alienation among the lesser powers. This could not be avoided by just keeping them informed through Nato or the European Community.

And it has already happened, since the report's publication, over the suggested Middle East group. The protests have come at once from Italy, a marginal great power, which may have less of a foreign policy vocation and less political stability than the others, but which is equally vital to the alliance.

Without Italy's decision to accept the new Euromissiles there would be no nuclear force being built by Nato. Italian support is also indispensable for strengthening the Nato presence in the Mediterranean, which is in itself a priority in any new Western strategy for the Middle East.

Italy, as a marginal country between East and West with a powerful Communist Party ambiguously hesitant between Nato and the Soviet Union, may undergo powerful neutralist or third force temptations. If this were Italy's choice, the whole East-West balance of power would be shattered.

There are, in my view, serious objections to the "principal powers" approach more than to the "special groups" idea. In the case of the Middle East the problem might be solved by just adding Italy to the other five.

But there is a more general problem—that of general policy-coordination between principal powers and lesser powers—which will require further studies, in order to avoid the constructive suggestions by the four institutes causing unwanted damage to the alliance.

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Peace move in Qantas dispute fails

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, March 4

After 19 days and protracted efforts to reach an agreement, the dispute over Qantas Airways has still not been resolved.

Early this week, because of the severely depleted operations of the airline, the Australian and New Zealand Governments brought in the Royal Australia Air Force to rescue stranded holidaymakers in both countries.

Last night in Sydney, Mr Andrew Peacock, the Industrial Relations Minister, Mr Cliff Dolan, President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, and Mr Keith Hamilton, chief executive of Qantas, met in a hotel to try to reach a settlement. Today it was believed that a settlement had been achieved but it emerged that something had gone wrong when the parties confronted each other at the Arbitration Commission.

The decision by Mr Peacock to involve himself in direct negotiations for the first time came after yesterday's close vote by striking unionists to stay out.

The dispute between the Australian Council of Trade Unions and Qantas arose more than two weeks ago when the union organization banned the airline's new 747 special jets for 12 days as "punishment" for the alleged use by Qantas of non-union volunteer staff during an earlier dispute with stewards. Qantas refused to accept the ban and suspended staff who refused to work on the aircraft leading to about 4,000 employees walking out or being suspended.

Aircraft refuellers, who are members of the Transport Workers Union, blacked Qantas operations 10 days ago over the suspension. The airline has been forced to obtain extra fuel overseas to keep its services flying from Sydney. Qantas today placed advertisements in all the main Australian daily newspapers setting out its side of the case.

Blacklist of entertainers who visit South Africa

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, March 4

After sportsmen, entertaine[rs] are to be faced with the pr[o]spect of being blacklisted [if] they perform in South Africa.

The "black consciousness" Azania People's Organizatio[n] (Azapo) announced today th[at] it intended to draw up a[nd] circulate internationally a blac[k]list of entertainers similar [to] the sporting blacklist which l[ed to] the abandonment of the crick[et] test match against the We[st] Indies in Guyana.

"The aim is to place Sou[th] Africa into cultural isolation, [on] the same lines as the prese[nt] isolation of this country [in] world sport," an Azapo spoke[s]man said.

The organization has alrea[dy] had one modest success. A pe[r]formance by Lovelace Watki[ns], a black American singer, whi[ch] was to have taken place in t[he] gold-mining town of Welko[m] today, was called off as a resu[lt] of a boycott by the local bran[ch] manager of Azapo.

Azapo has also put pressu[re] on a rock group, known [as] Supermax, which began a Sou[th] African tour today. The grou[p] manager said after a meeti[ng] wiht Azapo in the morning th[at] although the group intended [to] continue with its tour it n[ow] "fully understood" the positi[on] of blacks in South Africa a[nd] members of the group would e[x]plain the situation when th[ey] returned to Europe.

A blacklist of entertainers [is] unlikely, however, to have t[he] same impact as the sports or[...]

Azapo also announced tod[ay] that 12 of its members w[ho] were detained last October [in] the black homeland of Lebo[wa] *have ben freed*. The men we[re] held in connexion with a b[oy]cott of buses in the northe[rn] Transvaal. The boycott is co[n]tinuing in one black townsh[ip] near Pietersburg.

Mr Joseph Mavi and t[...] other executive committ[ee] members of the Black Muni[ci]pal Workers' Union were tod[ay] cleared of charges of instigati[ng] and taking part in an illeg[al] strike among the workers [of] the Johannesburg city coun[cil] last year.

UN accused of bias during Namibia debate

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, March 4

Western hopes of revivi[ng] the United Nations settleme[nt] plan for Namibia have tak[en] another knock following [a] strong attack on alleged Uni[ted] Nations bias in favour of [the] South-West Africa Peopl[e's] Organization (Swapo) by [a] leading member of the inte[r]nally-based, multi-ethnic Dem[o]cratic Turnhalle Allian[ce] (DTA).

Speaking after the expulsi[on] earlier this week of the Sou[th] African representative from t[he] General Assembly debate [on] Namibia, Dr Ben Africa, [the] DTA's vice-president, said [the] organization regarded Secur[ity] Council Resolution 435 (whi[ch] embodies the settlement pla[n]) to be dead as long as the wo[rld] body failed to demonstrate [its] impartiality.

He said impartiality did [not] seem possible following t[he] rejection of South Afric[an] credentials during the Uni[ted] Nations debate. "We must n[ow] look for other ways to ma[ke] our country independent," [he] said.

Nkomo guerrillas talking o[f] revolt, Mr Mugabe says

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, March 4

Former Guerrillas loyal to Mr Joshua Nkomo were still considering revolt against the elected authority of the Government, Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, told Parliament today.

He blamed "mutinous elements" of Zipra, the military wing of Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front, for the clashes in Bulawayo and the midlands last month in which more that 200 people were killed.

Answering questions in the House of Assembly, Mr Mugabe said: "there is still talk amo[ng] Zapu (the former name of [Mr] Nkomo's party) of this Gover[n]ment not being representati[ve] of the people and talk [of] revolt. My Government can[not] put up with acts of intend[ed] revolt. If a situation warra[nts] that we use vicious methods [we] will use vicious methods."

In the factional fighting l[ast] months Mr Mugabe resist[ed] ordering an air strike agai[nst] a Zipra armoured column. It [is] understood that the Air For[ce] would not be under su[ch] restraints again in similar c[ir]cumstances.

Glimpse at arms sales policy worries MPs

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

A corner of the veil which shrouds British policy on arms sales was lifted yesterday and MPs were not altogether happy with what they saw.

The basic facts were clear enough, as set out by Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office. Britain has about 5 per cent of the international arms trade, which puts this country fourth in the arms sales league, a long way behind the United States, the Soviet Union and France.

But what worried MPs in the Select Committee on Foreign Affairs was that the Government did not seem to be doing anything at all to coordinate policies on arms sales among Western countries, and did not seem very keen even on making an attempt.

"Everyone observes the mandatory arms embargo on South Africa and no Nato country sells arms to the Warsaw pact. Apart from that", Mr Hurd told the MPs, "there has not been an attempt to coordinate defence sales policy in the European Community or the alliance."

Why not? he was repeatedly asked. "Each country pursues its own policies in this respect", Mr Hurd explained, adding when pressed: "It's a very difficult area. It's highly competitive. It would be foolish to take an attitude unless and until we had some indication that the attempt would be successful."

The Foreign Office's general policy, as set out in a memorandum prepared for the Select Committee, is "to support the sale of arms abroad unless, in particular cases, there are compelling reasons for not doing so."

But several MPs clearly felt that Mr Hurd was altogether too phlegmatic about it. Mr Peter Mills, Conservative MP for Devon, West, suggested that the French track record was always to go ahead when others refused to supply arms. Mr Kevin MacNamara, Labour MP for Kingston-upon-Hull, Central, argued that supplying arms to a country inevitably implied a degree of approval for the regime, which was dangerous.

Mr Hurd said each case for arms sales was considered on its merits. So far as human rights were concerned, two tests were applied: was there a flagrant violation of human rights in the country in question, and could defence equipment be used for purposes of internal suppression?

Mr Hurd noted that in the period 1974-78, the Soviet Union had supplied six times as many arms as Britain, while providing less economic aid.

Agreement near on Caribbean conservation pact

By Tony Samstag

Scientists and lawyers from more than 20 countries in the Caribbean have agreed on a $3.1m (£1.4m) conservation programme for the region. The decision, taken at the end of a five-day meeting in Managua, Nicaragua, last week, is expected to be ratified by a ministerial conference in Jamaica next month.

Of 66 projects considered at last week's conference, 25 were defined as "high priority . . . of common interest to the region" to be implemented over the next three years, according to a statement by the United Nations Environment Programme.

Immediate action was recommended for oil spill prevention, watershed management, a technical survey, and environmental education at secondary and university level in the four languages of the region: Dutch, English, French and Spanish.

The conference also approved the creation of a Caribbean trust fund, to which most of the countries in the region would contribute.

Similar regional agreements have been signed by governments in the Mediterranean and the Gulf.

Kabul hijackers free women and children

Islamabad, March 4.—The hi[jackers] of a Pakistani airlin[er] with 148 people on board s[et] free 27 women and children [at] Kabul airport today.

An aircraft sent to pick u[p] the released hostages was r[e]fused landing permission [at] Kabul and was forced to retur[n] to Pakistan. No reason w[as] given.

The negotiations for the r[e]lease of the passengers hav[e] run into diplomatic difficultie[s] caused by Pakistan's refusal t[o] recognize the Soviet-installe[d] Afghan Government, diploma[ts] in Islamabad reported.—Reuter

Christmas Island phosphate deal

Wellington, March 4.—Ne[w] Zealand is to hand over i[ts] Christmas Island phosphat[e] mining operation to Australi[a], subject to ratification by th[e] British Government, Mr Duncan MacIntyre, the deputy Prime Minister, said today.

New Zealand would have the right to purchase up to half the island's phosphate output. At present the British Phosphate Commissioners undertake the mining operation as managing agents.—Reuter.

مأخوذ من الاصل

Poles promise Soviet leadership swift action to end anarchy

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 4

President Brezhnev and senior colleagues in the Soviet Politburo today held what amounted to a summit meeting with Mr Stanliaw Kania, the Polish party secretary, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, and other key figures in the Polish Communist Party. At the meeting the Poles gave a pledge that they would act swiftly to overcome anarchy and disarrey in their country.

Mr Kania, who was in Moscow wor the Soviet party congress, left for home afterwards, the last of the East European leaders to go.

In a lengthy communiqué published this evening both sides said what they called imperialism and internal reaction were hoping the political and economic crisis would lead to a weakening of communism in Poland and abroad. This therefore made a "firm and resolute rebuff" to such dangerous attempts "particularly pressing".

In a specific evocation of the so-called Brezhnev doctrine they declared: "The socialist community is inseparable. Defence of it is the cause not only of each state but also of the entire socialist coalition."

The communiqué said the Soviet people had confidence that Poland would be a "reliable link" in the socialist community, a clear reference to its important position in the Warsaw Pact.

Both sides agreed that the Polish party had the strength and possibilities to turn the course of events and eliminate the dangers hanging over what were called "the socialist gains of the Polish people".

In his address to the congress last week, Mr Kania made a strong plea for Poland to be allowe dto solve its difficulties on its own, saying his party had the strength to prevent counter-revolution in the country. By contrast, Mr Brezhnev had earlier spoken more ambiguously about not abandoning the Soviet Union's ally in its hour of need, and he declared that the "pillars of socialist society" were in peril.

Mr Brezhnev had been expected to hold talks with Mr Kania, as he has done with all the East European leaders who attended the congress, except President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania. But this meeting was clearly of greater importance.

Present with Mr Brezhnev were all those Politburo members with direct responsibilities for areas where the Russians feel events in Poland pose a threat: Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister, Mr Yuri Andropov, head of the KGB security police, Mr Mikhail Suslov, the guardian of communist ideology, Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Minister of Defence, and Mr Konstantin Rusakov, the party secretary responsible for relations with other ruling parties.

The communiqué spoke of the "common approach" of both sides to the Polish crisis, and the "heartfelt" atmosphere at today's meeting.

Nevertheless, there are indications that the Russians are still far from happy with the situation in Poland in spite of the present lull, and with their party congress now out of the way, are in a better position to urge the Poles to take tougher measures to restore things to what Moscow regards as normal. Moscow's viewpoint was undoubtedly put strongly at today's meeting.

Demands for reform: Containing the tide of demands, some of which would change the basic concepts on which the Polish Communist Party has been resting for decades, has become the paramount element in the discussions between the central party authority and the rank and file (Dessa Trevisan writes from Warsaw).

The Polish workers' revolt of last summer has provoked a soul searching debate within the party's three million members and meetings preparing the agenda for the ninth party congress are calling for fundamental changes to give the grass roots more control.

The question is how far can the Communist Party go in reform. Already it is clear that the divisions have not been bridged. The plenary session of the commission entrusted with preparation for the congress with representatives from the regions, which was due to be held next week, has been postponed.

There are three main trends. The leadership under Mr Stanislaw Kania is convinced of the necessity for renewal. The reluctant conservatives entrenched in the vast bureaucratic apparatus are fighting a rear-guard battle. The rank-and-file majority, according to opinion polls, is pushing for transformation but is still sceptical of how far in fact this can be carried through.

Mr Reagan tries to allay fears of 'new Vietnam'

From Clive Cookson
Washington, March 4

President Reagan tried last night to reassure his foreign policy critics who fear that the United States' growing military involvement in El Salvador could lead to "another Vietnam".

In a television interview Mr Reagan said he saw "no parallels at all" with the first phase of American military aid to South Vietnam. About thirty American military advisers are already in El Salvador, and the Administration announced yesterday that it would send another 20 to help the ruling junta, but the President emphasized that they would not become involved in combat.

"They train recruits in the garrison area and, as a matter of fact, we have such training teams in more than 30 countries today", President Reagan said.

However liberal Democrats in Congress were not placated. Forty-three members of the House of Representatives have sent the President a telegram warning him that one or more American advisers might be killed by the rebels in El Salvador. American casualties, they said, might force the United States "into another Vietnam or a humiliating withdrawal".

But Senator Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts, one of their Democratic colleagues on the Senate foreign relations committee, conceded that the liberals were in a minority.

President Reagan touched on many foreign policy issues during his hour-long interview with Mr Walter Cronkite, America's best-known television news anchorman, who retires from CBS this week. He was extremely cautious in response to Mr Cronkite's questioning about President Brezhnev's suggestion of a summit meeting.

"We could talk a lot better if there was some indication that they truly wanted to be a member of the peace-loving nations of the world", Mr Reagan said. But he declined to set any "hard and fast" preconditions for a meeting with the Soviet President or to say whether Moscow would first have to commit itself to a troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

The President made friendly noises about South Africa, noting that many South Africans were trying to get rid of apartheid. "As long as there is a sincere and honest effort being made to do so, the United States should try to be helpful to South Africa, he said.

Catholics caution: The hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States today urged President Reagan to halt the increase in military aid to El Salvador, warning him that "it increases the risk of wider military intervention" (AP reports from Washington).

In a joint statement, the three principal organizations representing Catholic bishops, priests and nuns called for the termination of all military aid to the El Salvador junta and urged new efforts to reach a negotiated settlement of the civil war.

The statement said the military aid had three negative consequences: "It identifies the United States, at least symbolically, with the repressive role of the security forces whose actions have been consistently criticized by the church in El Salvador; it increases the risk of wider military intervention; and it jeopardizes a constructive role the United States might play in the conflict".

The statements signatories said they "found profoundly disturbing the decisions taken in the last two months to renew military aid of weapons and ammunition and finally to propose even more significant increases for the future."

Moscow bewildered: Soviet officials today expressed bewilderment at President Reagan's statement making a summit meeting contingent upon a good-will gesture by Moscow, perhaps in Afghanistan (Agence France-Presse reports from Moscow).

The American response to the Brezhnev proposal came like a cold shower in Moscow, where spokesmen at the just concluded Soviet party congress went out of their way to press their call for an East-West dialogue.

"They did not go unnoticed in the Soviet Union" Mr Leonid Zamyatin, Mr Brezhnev's spokesman, said of the American reactions.

South Africa pleased: Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, today welcomed Mr Reagan's statement acknowledging South Africa's strategic importance (Reuter reports from Cape Town).



President Reagan discussing a trip planned by former President Gerald Ford.

Mrs Thatcher 'admits mistake'

Mr Reagan revealed that Mrs Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, told him while she was in Washington that she thought she had made a mistake by introducing her economic policies in a "piecemeal" way in Britain.

$32,600m rise sought in US defence budget

Washington, March 4.—President Reagan asked Congress today to add $32,600m (£15,000m) to the Carter defence budget for the next 18 months, including funds for a new manned bomber and other weapons programmes.

Mr Reagan's proposed additions to the Pentagon budget unveiled by his defeated predecessor in January would authorize $1,300,000m (£600,000m) for the five years starting in 1982. This is nearly $200,000m more than Mr Carter sought.

As well as the bomber, the Reagan plan calls for building a sixth nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, reactivating two Second World War battleships and obtaining dozens of other ships and hundreds of aircraft and tanks beyond what Mr Carter proposed for the last half of the current 1981 financial year and for 1982.

It also proposes nearly to double spending for defence of the Gulf and Indian Ocean area, including strengthening the United States rapir deployment force and improvements to military installations on the British-owned Diego Garcia island.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, in unveiling the new budget to Congress, said the proposed increases over the next five years would redress the military balance with the Soviet Union and restore American strategic nuclear deterrence.

Mr Reagan made what he called American military inferiority relative to the Soviet Union a campaign issue in his quest for the presidency. He proposed today military budget authority of $178,000m this year, $6,800m above the Carter request. For the 1982 financial year starting on October 1, he asked for $222,200m, an increase of $25,800m.

Eagleburger post: Despite opposition by some conservatives, President Reagan said today he will nominate Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, a former assistant to Dr Henry Kissinger, to be Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs. Mr Eagleburger, who is 50, has held several previous State Department positions.—AP.

Close Brezhnev associates join Central Committee

Moscow, March 4.—Several close relations and associates of President Leonid Brezhnev, who is the Soviet party leader, have been moved up to the Communist Party's Central Committee, according to lists published in *Pravda* today.

Mr Yuri Brezhnev, the First Deputy Foreign Trade Minister, who is the party leader's son, became one of 151 candidate (non-voting) members of the Central Committee. Lieutenant-General Yuri Churbanov, the First Deputy Interior Minister, who is Mr Brezhnev's son-in-law, was moved to the same level.

President Brezhnev's position was further strengthened by the promotion of Mr Andrei Alexandrov-Agentov, a senior personal aide, from candidate to full Central Committee member, while another aide, Mr Anatoly Blatov, became a candidate member.

The party congress, which ended yesterday with the re-election of an unchanged Politburo and Secretariat, expanded the policy-making Central Committee from 287 to 319 full members and from 139 to 151 candidate members.

Several senior officers from the armed forces moved into the Central Committee as full members, while at least three figures fro the KGB security police were promoted to the same level. They included General Semyon Tsvigun, the First Deputy Chairman of the Committee for State Security.—Reuter.

Congress reviewed, page 16

Israeli move to frustrate redivision

Building of Jerusalem suburbs speeded up

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 4

Recent statistics have shown a sharp acceleration in Israeli plans to encircle Jerusalem with new Jewish suburbs in an effort to frustrate any future international attempts to redivide the city as part of a comprehensive Middle East settlement.

It was disclosed this week that in the two years since the signing of the Camp David accord there has been a nearly three-fold increase in the annual number of new homes built for Jewish families in areas of the city conquered from the Arabs in 1967.

The deliberate publication of the figures as part of the Government's intensifying campaign in the run-up to the June general election is expected to lessen further any chance of a Palestinian autonomy agreement being reached with Egypt.

According to Mr David Levy, Israel's Housing Minister, 8,000 housing units have beeen constructed in the mushrooming new suburbs since 1979, nearly three times the previous highest rate achieved since the land was annexed after the Six-Day War.

The new flats are sufficient to house more than 28,000 Jews, many of whom will be encouraged to move by heavily subsidized house prices.

During a heavily guarded walkabout in three of the new Jerusalem suburbs and their towering apartment blocks, Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, was shown convincing evidence that his Government has embarked upon what one official described as "perhaps the largest housing scheme of its kind in the world". It is estimated that about 90,000 Jews are already living in the new suburbs, many of which were established under the previous Labour administration.

Mr Uri Oren, spokesman for the Housing Ministry, told reporters accompanying the tour: "This Government is concerned with creating facts on the ground: 10,000 extra Jews must come to live in Jerusalem every year to keep up the present balance between Jews and Arabs of 73 to 27 per cent."

Mr Oren claimed that until 1979, the ratio of Jews to Arabs in the Holy City had been dropping year by year because of two factors: the higher Arab birthrate and the continuing immigration of Arabs to Jerusalem from the West Bank.

The tour began in Gilo, a Jewish suburb sprouting from the Judean hills less than two miles from the centre of the occupied Arab town of Bethlehem. Already the drab looking suburb has over 10,000 Jewish residents.

Under the Government's plan, the town—which is situated just inside the West Bank some five miles from Jerusalem—is destined to become a dormitory city with 35,000 Jewish residents and a new access road to Tel Aviv.

Fresh Libya threat to kill enemies

From Robert Fisk
Beirut, March 4

Colonel Moammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, appears to have sanctioned a renewal of the international assassination campaign against opponents of his regime.

In a speech to mark the fourth anniversary of the establishment of "people's congresses" in Libya this week, he declared that "the masses have the right to liquidate their enemies at home and abroad".

Last night, Tripoli radio carried a statement saying that Libyan revolutionary committees had "reaffirmed their determination to continue the physical liquidation campaign against the enemies of the people at home and abroad".

The colonel's words should not, perhaps, be taken too literally. The Libyan leader uses rhetoric with more freedom than most Arab heads of state.

Nevertheless, Libyan assassination squads accounted for more than a dozen political murders in Britain, West Germany, France, Lebanon and Greece last year, and few European governments are likely to ignore the latest remarks.

Mr Begin pained by hostility

From Our Own Correspondent
Jerusalem, March 4

Israel's relations with a number of leading European countries are coming under increasing strain which has further lessened the chances of official cooperation here with any proposed European peace initiative in the Middle East.

In a bitterly worded speech today, Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, condemned the suggestion made in a recent European working paper that Israel should withdraw from all the occupied Arab territories in exchange for foreign security guarantees and normal ties with the Arab states.

Speaking in the Knesset to an audience of former French paratroopers, Mr Begin said: "With deep pain, I must say lately the official policy towards Israel of several European countries—including France—is absolutely negative and sometimes incomprehensible".

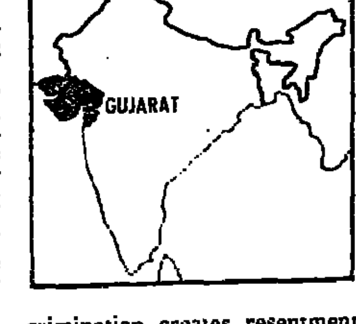
The question of proposed arms sales to Saudi Arabia prompted Israeli diplomatic anger against West Germany in particular, and also Britain and Italy.

Caste remains an abrasive in Indian society

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi, March 4

Few days pass in India without the newspapers reporting fresh manifestations of caste conflict. Beating, shooting, rape and mutilation are added almost daily to a dismal catalogue. Caste is part of the framework of Indian society and also one of its enduring abrasives.

The present eruption of violence in the western state of Gujarat, which has so far cost 25 lives and appears to be growing more bitter, is a caste conflict rooted in a government policy which attempts, in a well-meaning egalitarian spirit, to confront one of the central issues and enigmas of Indian life.



The constitution says: "The state shall promote with special care the education and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people". Since independence these words have been translated into action through the policy of reserving places in colleges and government offices for Harijans (Mahatma Gandhi's name for Untouchables) and for tribal people, who make up about a sixth of the population.

But according to a growing body of opinion the quota system is getting out of hand. It is argued that the noble purpose enshrined in the constitution, which outlawed untouchability, has become distorted in practice and that the contradictions in the policy sharpen rather than mitigate caste differences.

Critics contend that caste has become one of the important commodities in the political market, with politicians promising larger job quotas in exchange for votes. Positive discrimination creates resentment where people are given jobs on caste grounds rather than on merit, and causes trouble in cases where well-off harijans are allotted places and jobs at the expense of poor upper-caste people whose need is evidently greater.

A harijan is not always at the bottom of the economic heap. Anger has grown among those in the upper castes who believe it is now they who are victimized on caste grounds.

In Gujarat the quota system is being fiercely attacked and stoutly defended. Until recently a quarter of post-graduate places in medical colleges were held for harijans and others of what are called the backward classes. But gradually the allotment has been increased to half. In a few specializations even more places are held for the backward classes.

Anti-quota agitation by upper caste medical students and counter demonstration by Harijans have brought turmoil to several parts of the state. Police have fired on rioters and the Army has been called in to help keep order. More than 60 textile mills have been closed by striking Harijan workers protesting against the students' campaign.

Caste has been for more than 3,000 years a central and powerful force in Hindu society and to a considerable extent still determines a man's place in society.

It is part and parcel of Hindu ideas of life, rebirth and predestination, and clearly has a stabilizing or ordering effect in society. But for the lower orders it is also an instrument of repression and is therefore a cause of violence.

The system had its origins in four castes, broadly speaking the priests, soldiers, farmers and artisans. The rest were the untouchables. Now there are said to be 3,000 castes, with numerous sub-castes.

Modern conditions and influences, especially the growth of education, travel and the development of urban societies, have gone some way to eroding traditional caste barriers. In cities a different style of life and enforced mixing and sharing in public transport, restaurants and cinemas have helped to make caste less important.

Most caste strife originates in the countryside. Harijans tend to be confined to their traditional menial tasks, live separately in villages and draw water from different wells. Belief that Untouchables contaminate leads to the practising of an apartheid extraordinarily complex in its detail.

Ill-treatment of Harijans has been commonplace for centuries. Atrocities in which Harijans and tribal people are victims have increased threefold in three years according to the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes.

Much of the trouble in rural India today is caused by land feuds as peasants, mostly Harijans and low castes, try to claim their rights, and become the victims of landlords who resort to murder and maiming to resist the pressure.

Prejudice is not a one-way affair. A few days ago Harijan villagers cut off the nose of a Harijan girl who had offended by marrying into a higher caste. Marriage is still a sensitive and important area where caste lines are concerned.

In more educated circles prejudice and superstition are still there, even if more covert. After a reception in Delhi the host ordered the crockery to be smashed because it had been used, and so defiled, by a guest who was an Untouchable.

When a former deputy prime minister, a Harijan, unveiled a statue two years ago, high caste Hindus gave it a wash after he had gone, because he had touched it.

Recently a Harijan presented an idol worth £2,700 to a temple, but priests stopped him entering the temple because his presence would have polluted it.

In the generation since independence India has made huge strides in agriculture, industry and education, and living standards have been raised remarkably. But improvement has been offset by large growth in population, so that in spite of all the advances more than two-fifths of the people live below the poverty level. Pressure on land has grown, and this is one of the factors in caste conflict.

Many Indians are anxious to find ways of lessening tensions while bettering the lives of those traditionally kept under the heel. But the caste structure itself is a part of India that cannot be eradicated.

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OVERSEAS

Thai Premier hopes to form new Government by weekend after nine more ministers resign

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, March 4

The divided coalition Government of Thailand broke up today with the resignation of nine more Cabinet ministers, including most of those in charge of economic affairs. Four other ministers had resigned earlier.

General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Prime Minister and commander-in-chief of the Army, would not resign, a government spokesman said, but hoped to announce a new government by the end of the week.

The resignations coming after a dispute over oil supplies, almost certainly mean the exclusion from the Government of the middle-of-the-road Social Action Party, which holds 80 seats in Parliament, twice as many as any other party. Its lack of a voice in Government is likely to have repercussions throughout the country.

Mr Boonchu Rojanastien, the Deputy Prime Minister in charge of economic affairs, was one of those who resigned today. He and the Social Action Party have been identified with economic and social measures to help the rural population and to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor. Mr Boonchu also removed much red tape to assist foreign investors.

Although the remodelled Government may be more inclined towards the right and the military, no important changes in these policies are expected. General Prem has often said he is committed to policies which will bring "more fairness in society".

Senior officers have had discussions with political leaders in recent days but General Serm Na Nakhon, the Supreme Commander, said the military would not interfere in the government reshuffle although they wanted stability for the country.

Leaders of the armed forces had in the past brought about most of Thailand's political changes by overthrowing the Government of the day.

In the present crisis some senior officers made it clear they wanted the Social Action Party removed from the Government because of its criticism of General Prem, and because they opposed the Social Action ministers' handling of the economy.

At what proved to be the last meeting of the old Cabinet Colonel Chamlong Strimuang, Secretary-General to the Prime Minister, preached a "sermon" to the tense gathering, according to a government spokesman.

Colonel Chamlong, who is often called "the preacher" because of his public lectures on Buddhism and his strict adherence to its precepts, told the ministers that despite their problems and conflicts they should all set good examples of behaviour to the public.

"Everybody in the Cabinet room liked my sermon because it defused the tense situation", he said later.

In a recent public lecture Colonel Chamlong urged his audience to follow him in leading an austere life. He did not sleep on a bed but on a mat on the floor, never attended entertainments and had decided with his wife not to have children.

Unesco 'is trying to license journalists'

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, March 4

The International Press Institute, which represents more than 1,800 editors from over 60 countries, ended its annual assembly here tonight after approving resolutions on South Africa, Argentina, Portugal, South Korea and moves through Unesco to impose further restrictions on the news media.

The institute referred to Unesco's recent moves to implement measures designed to protect journalists, and says it has no confidence that certain governments, through Unesco, can be trusted with the task of protecting journalists. The latest moves, the resolution adds, were "yet another attempt to license journalists while professing to protect them".

The institute said it would continue its fight for the protection of the right of any journalist to collect and convey information "without perils, hazards or other interference". This protection, however, must be meaningful and not an excuse to exercise governmental control.

"Unesco is trying to give respectability to particular governments who would, in any case, have proceeded against journalists and press freedom", Mr Cushro Irani, of *The Statesman*, of India, the president of the institute, said.

The institute protested against the South African Government's "continuing acts of repression against the press and harassment of journalists"; expressed grave concern over the fate of dozens of Argentine journalists who have disappeared during the past five years; urged the Portuguese Government to hand over publications to private ownership and uphold the principles of press freedom; and expressed the hope that the improvement in South Korea since the lifting of martial law would continue.

Another resolution expressed the hope that more funds would be made available internationally to assist the press in developing countries.

Reviewing the problems of the media earlier, Mr Peter Galliner, the institute's director, said the situation in South Korea and South Africa had caused great concern.

While the position in South Korea was better than it was six months ago, many journalists were no longer able to follow their profession. South Africa's introduction of further measures to curtail press freedom was a matter for great concern.

There had been terrorist attacks on journalists in Italy and Spain, as well as in South America, prompting Mr Galliner to claim that "journalism has become one of the most dangerous occupations".

Mr Hilary Ngweno, editor of the *Nairobi Times*, criticized the fact that some newspapers in Kenya are still under foreign ownership.

In brief

MacLehose visit to London

Hongkong, March 4. — Sir Murray MacLehose, the Governor of Hongkong, will visit London next week for talks with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, and Mr John Biffen, the Trade Secretary. His six-day visit precedes Lord Carrington's visit to Hongkong.

Sir Murray will explain Hongkong reactions to the British Nationality Bill and the recent increases in the fees of Hongkong students in England.

Envoy 'threatened Australia'

Canberra, March 4.—Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, criticezed the Soviet Ambassador, Mr Nikolai Soudarikov, accusing him of attempting to threaten Australia. Mr Fraser said in Parliament that Mr Soudarikov had told journalists that Australia could become a nuclear target because of its friendship with the United States.

New Defence Minister

Cairo, March 4.—President Anwar Sadat of Egypt today appointed Lieutenant-General Muhammad Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala as Minister of Defence and commander of the armed forces, the Middle East News Agency said.

S Yemen execution

Beirut, March 4.—Mr Muhammad Saleh Mutea, South Yemen's former Interior and Foreign Minister, has been executed in Aden after being convicted of dealings with Saudi Arabian intelligence, the Beirut newspaper *As-Safir* said today.

Casino fire

Las Vegas, March 4.—About 1,600 gamblers and guests were evacuated when a fire, said by firemen to have been started deliberately, broke out in the Silverbird Casino Hotel here last night.

Polish example affects Chinese workers

Peking, March 4.—Social unrest threatening to undermine the very foundations of the Chinese Communist regime, with demands similar to those made by Polish workers, has broken out in Taiyuan, 240 miles south-west of here.

A local newspaper, which has just reached the capital, reported calls for the scrapping of the one-party system and spoke of "very serious" political restiveness among workers of a big Taiyuan steel mill who demanded "the right to decide their own future themselves" and an end to "dictatorship".

The unrest in Taiyuan is the most serious to come to light in China over the past months.

A few days ago, the *Taiyuan Daily* reported the dismantling of a "counter-revolutionary clique" whose members—their number was not specified—are to stand trial shortly for speaking out against the communist regime.

Without identifying members of what it called an "arch counter-revolutionary" group, the paper said it had "publicly demanded a government of union" for China instead of "the domination of the single party" prevailing since the founding of the communist regime 31 years ago.

The paper also spoke of heated discussions within the local population in recent weeks to determine whether such statements were counter-revolutionary, as some people apparently disagreed with this view.

This was also the first known case of arrests within the activist community in the past months. This new crackdown had been expected by militants for some time in the face of the regime's hardening stance.

A week ago, the newspaper also carried a lengthy editorial assailing workers of the Taiyuan steel mill who had called for the "breaking down the rusted door of socialism".

The newspaper said that a minority felt that they were the poorest workers in the world and that they demanded the right of workers to decide their lot for themselves.

The article did not say under what circumstances these statements were made or outline the workers' claims in their call for independent trade unions as in Poland, something which has also been sought in other Chinese cities.

Some workers at the steel works have rallied to the slogan "democracy and liberty" and called for "the overthrow of the system of political bureaucracy" through other calls such as "down with bureaucracy and down with the dictatorship".

The commentator emphasized that "without the Communist Party there would be no New China" and criticized those who propagated these ideas.

Similar unrest has come to light lately in a number of Chinese cities and rural districts, each time through denunciation in the country's official press.

In several places the press reported demands for "allegedly independent" unions.

Foreseeing this unrest, Mr Hu Yarbang, the party's Secretary-General, said recently that the regime should restore its authority quickly and resolve the confidence crisis so as to stave off any situation similar to that prevailing in Poland at the moment.—Agence France-Presse.

Prince Sihanouk eases terms for a coalition

Pyongyang, March 4.—Prince Norodom Sihanouk the former Cambodian head of state announced in North Korea today that he was ready to drop some of his conditions for setting up an anti-Vietnamese coalition with the Khmer Rouges in his country but asked for Chinese and American aid to create an "independent Sihanoukist army".

He said he would insist on the "essential conditions", of the neutralization of the country after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. But he dropped a proposal that would have led to the vacating of the Kampuchean seat at the United Nations, in anticipation of his forthcoming talks with the Khmer Rouges and their ally China.—Agence France-Presse.

Three more men hanged in Malaysia

From M. G. G. Pillai
Kuala Lumpur, March 4

Three more men went to the gallows at Malaysia's Pudu prison early today, bringing the total of those executed in the past seven days to nine. The executions were resumed last Thursday after an interval of 10 months. Legal sources said there were at least 14 men in the death row awaiting the results of their clemency appeals.

All but two of the 20 men hanged since March last year—when executions were resumed after several years—had been convicted under the Internal Security Act of having unlicensed guns. The other two were hanged for drug trafficking and murder.

The Internal Security Act restricts the rights of the accused and imposes a mandatory death sentence on conviction. At least 60 men have been sentenced to death under the Act. Legal sources confirmed today that when the Pardons Board met in the past fortnight, it commuted five death sentences, but this could not be officially confirmed today.

Peking coastal ban forces fishermen into shore jobs

From Our Correspondent
Hongkong, March 4

China's five-month ban on fishing inside its coastal waters by boats from Hongkong is forcing an estimated 1,000 Hongkong fishermen into low-paid building and labouring jobs ashore.

Nearly 200 trawlers, most of them shrimp boats, have been offered for sale, according to the Hongkong Fishermen's Mutual Aid Association. The association has 4,000 members, who have a low educational level and cannot find jobs which will pay them as much as they earned from fishing.

After suddenly imposing the ban in September—in order, it was claimed, to preserve rare fish—the Chinese authorities extended it in December without warning to a belt of 40 nautical miles along the coast of Guangdong and Guangxi provinces, from which Chinese mainland fishermen were also banned.

After urgent representations, they agreed to reopen an area of 100 nautical miles in the estuary of the Pearl river between Hongkong and Macao, and promised a visiting mission of Hongkong fishermen to consider further concessions.

But no compromise has been offered so far and Mr Keung Yin-wan, chairman of the Hongkong and Kowloon Fishermen's Welfare Association, expects a continuing increase in the number of unemployed fishermen. He said that 600 of Hongkong's 1,400 registered trawlers are now idle.

The chairman of the mutual aid association has gone to Canton to attend a meeting of the Guangdong Provincial People's Congress, but the fishermen's leaders do not expect any important concessions.

Nearly 50 Chinese naval vessels are patrolling the proscribed zone, where hundreds of fishermen have been arrested in recent months.

Royal brew

Hongkong, March 4.—Queen Margrethe of Denmark will open a new brewery during a visit to Hongkong this year.

Carnival toll

Rio de Janeiro, March 4.—At least 119 people died in the four-day carnival which ended in Rio de Janeiro yesterday.

Law Report March 4 1981 — Chancery Division

Tomlin Order is used for a new purpose

In re a Company No 003324 of 1979

Before Mr Justice Vinelott
[Judgment delivered March 3]

Where a compromise is made on an application under section 210 of the Companies Act, 1948, and the petitioner does not seek an order for the compulsory winding up of the company, it is appropriate to embody the terms of such compromise in the form of a Tomlin order.

Mr Justice Tomlin, who gave his name to the order, said: "When an action is proposed to be stayed on agreed terms to be contained in a schedule to the order, the order is: And the plaintiff and the defendant having agreed to the terms set forth in the schedule hereto it is ordered that all future proceedings to this action be stayed".

The petitioner sought an order under section 210 to compel the company or its director, a majority shareholder in the company, to purchase his shares at a price calculated in accordance with the method contained in the articles of association. The parties reached a compromise on the sale of the shares the terms of which were set out in a Tomlin order. The court was asked to approve the form of the order.

Section 210 provides: "(1) Any member of a company who complains that the affairs of the company are being conducted in a manner oppressive to some part of the members (including himself) or in a case falling within section 169 (3) of the Act, the Board of Trade may make an application to the court by petition for an order under this section."

Mr Ralph Instone for the petitioner; Mr Eben Hamilton for the company.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that it was a petition under section 210 of the Companies Act, 1948, which did not seek an order for the compulsory winding up of the company and had not been advertised. The only relief sought was an order requiring the company or its directors (who were also majority shareholders) to purchase the shares of the petitioner at a fair value according to the articles of association, but on the footing that the profit of the company had been secured by the addition of certain sums which it was said were either wrongly charged against profits or wrongly diverted to another company. The petitioner was supported by the trustees of the will of a deceased shareholder and together they held only 28 per cent of the company's shares.

The differences between the shareholders had now been resolved and a scheme agreed which provided, inter alia, for the distribution of exceptional dividends by the company during the current and the next financial years and for the purchase of the minority shareholding. In order to mitigate capital gains tax, the purchase was to take place over a three-year period, and the court was asked to decide whether that was an appropriate form of order to be made when an application under section 210 was compromised.

There was no reason why such form of order should not be employed provided that the petitioner did not seek an order for the compulsory winding up of the company. If a petitioner did seek such an order, then it was clearly wrong that proceedings should be stayed until the terms of the compromise could be carried into effect since if an order for the compulsory winding up was to be subsequently made, it would relate back to the service of the petition. No order in the Tomlin form had ever been made in the compromise of an application under section 210 possibly because petitioners commonly sought a compulsory winding up order as an alternative to an order under that section.

In the present case there were clear advantages to the parties in embodying the agreed terms of the settlement in a Tomlin order, so that if any dispute arose in carrying out the terms of the compromise the matter could be expeditiously and inexpensively referred to the court. There was no possible prejudice to other persons concerned with the company, in particular the creditors, if the petition remained on the file during the period required to complete the sale and transfer of the minority shareholding. On the other hand it would be undesirable that the petition should remain on the file indefinitely, and the petitioner should give an undertaking to apply to dismiss the petition when the terms of compromise had been fully implemented.

His Lordship approved the form of order.

Solicitors: Dibb, Lupton & Co, Leeds; Harrisons, Leeds.

Prudence Glynn

Catching nature before it is too late


Photograph by Brian Ha
An owl in the new exhibition at the Natural History Museum

He was copper, and he was cream, and his fangs were inordinate. He danced in the moonlight in the frosty lanes of Oxfordshire and he was very hungry. Still ran rabbit, terrified rabbit, never getting farther, dazzled by the headlights; ran straight in front of the car. Stoat thought: "There's my dinner", and "anyway, I'm faster", and he too ran in front of the car. Still ran rabbit, always getting farther, nearer to his burrow, all unknowing that his enemy was dead. For the car wheels caught stoat, and bowled him in the hedgerow and he lay there cream and copper and his fangs were inordinate.

In the morning a man came by and said: "My, that's a fine fellow, not a mark on him, I'll take him and show him to some people." Various people came and looked at the stoat and a woman said: "How very handsome. I wonder if we could have him stuffed?"

Which only goes to prove that women are impossibly inquisitive and quite frequently let themselves in for pieces of information, to say nothing of bills, for which they have not bargained. First they rang the University of Oxford, Natural History department and inquired if the stoat could be made quite different and wonderfully permanent by, say, five o'clock one day very soon. And the University of Oxford, Natural History department said, very politely, go away.

The woman consulted a bright yellow book divided into sections and hunted under Taxidermy. She telephoned a Mr Teasdale in Yorkshire. Mr Teasdale asked is the stoat in the deep freeze? Not exactly, came the reply. Could it be posted at once, in ice? Eh, well... Anyway, how much would it cost? £50 to do, plus £30 for a suitable box. But really two days old was already pushing it and a week... so why not consult the oracle in the blue and coffee coloured palace in South Kensington?

A great deal has changed since the days of privileged gunning down of rare and wondrous beasts and birds, the thoughtless slaughter in pursuit of vicarious masculinity or the passing whim of fashion, the days when the works of the immortal hand and eye would end up on a silly hat or the walls of Fawlty Towers. Not enough, according to the latest reports from those concerned with preservation, who can still point to rows of elephant feet destined as waste paper baskets and tin cans of the gentle whale murdered to feed the smelly pets that man has made of once self-supporting species.

Enough though to make the taxidermy and modelling department of the Natural History Museum a world leader in its field. Confronted with the need to use mostly zoo-bred creatures or to shampooo and refurbish specimens from a less conservation minded age, the Natural History Museum has responded finely both by the development of techniques and by the presentation of what it has preserved or restored.

The first thing to remember to forget is that animals are not stuffed, as with teddy bears and sofa cushions. They are modelled with the utmost skill, life-likeness of posture, and accuracy of anatomy in a variety of materials. Then and only then is the furry or feathered overcoat drawn on, sometimes over, sometimes upward like Long Johns, and the stitching into place begins. Hunt the stitches is apparently a keenly fought game between preserver and audience.

Technically, freeze drying is the New Thing, but before everyone gets very nervous about what is going to be mixed in with the mixed vegetables I should say that this process makes for many problems in larger mammals, which must be posed at the start of the weeks-long dehydration and over whose collapse or distortion little control can be exercised from then on. Great for birds and tiny mammals, less good for lions.

The year marks the centenary of the Natural History Museum in South Kensington. On May 27 Professor Sir Andrew Muxley, President of the Royal Society, will open the big new permanent display called Origin of Species, exhibits from which are shown in the photograph, and the Queen and the Prince Phillip will visit the museum on the same day. Currently the museum has an exhibition which may be of particular interest to readers of this piece since it is called Nature Stored; Nature Studied, and it travels the growth of the collections and the scientific work of the museum. If you move fast, your stoat m still be a perpetual option your decor.

Bowing to popular demai the new exhibition will favc the diorama form of presen tion as opposed to a lot variegated gannets or whate in a glass coffin hardly lik to capture the imagination of young student made blasé magnificent television p grammes and magazines ab the wild life all around Just as society has had come to terms with the sad inescapable fact that a lot animals, birds and flaw which have been taken granted will never be seen their wild habitat by o grandchildren, so museu must keep up to date with once common, now rare s cimens. I suggest a Christm holidays show entitled dustbin fox, or survival Britain in the 80s.

After all, only I was st that my copper and cre creature, measuring with curtain tape 16½in from pink nose to black-tipped was a stoat. Twenty years a would anyone have paused? we all sat down in Oxfordsh and said: "That's your fault

Juice of a good idea

The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

Of this season, *The Country Housewife and Lady's Director** of 1727 notes: "In this Month it may not be unnecessary to observe that Oranges are declining, and waste apace; but they are commonly very cheap, and therefore such as have a great Call for Orange-peel, as Confectioners, etc. now buy them in quantities; but a little Carriage by Land will contribute to their quicker decay."

Its author Richard Bradley, who was appointed the first Professor of Botany at Cambridge University in 1724, goes on to say: "The Orange, tho' it is not found in every Garden, yet I esteem it as a necessary Fruit in many Cases, and what a Family can hardly be without; and truly considering how good Oranges we might have in our Gardens, and how easily they may be cultivated against Garden-walls, I much wonder that they are not more generally planted with us.

"There is a very good Instance of their prospering well against a Wall, and thriving in the natural Ground, at Mr Heather's, a curious Gentleman at Twittenham, which Trees bear very well, and bring very large Fruit."

The good professor was indeed writing of orange trees fruiting in England (and not just in glasshouses) as well as of imported fruit. And what he was leading to was a recipe for preserving their juice, "... especially it may prove useful to such as have opportunities of vending Punch in large Quantities, for such who find that Liquor agreeable to them: For tho' I have known several who have expressed the Juice of Oranges and Lemons, and bottled it up against a dear Time, yet such Juice has turn'd to be of a very disagreeable Sourness in a short season.

"The method which I have taken to preserve this Juice to be used in Punch, was to express the Juice, and pass it thro' a Jelly-bag, with about two Ounces of double-refined Loaf-Sugar to each Pint of Juice, and a Pint of Brandy, or Arrack: bottle this up, and cork it well with sound Corks, and you may keep it a Year...

"When you have occasion to use it for Punch, it is at the discretion of the Maker to add what quantity of Brandy, or Arrack, he thinks proper, only remembering that there is already a Pint in each Bottle." No, it would not do at all to forget.

Another old fashioned preserve is lemon curd. New laid eggs may have been easier to come by in Richard Bradley's time, but he would have had greater difficulty storing it. Even with refrigeration it seldom keeps longer than about three months, so make small quantities at a time.

Lemon curd
Makes about 1.35 kg (3 lbs)

- 6 juicy lemons
- 225 g (8 oz) unsalted butter
- 570 g (1¼ lbs) caster sugar
- 6 large fresh eggs, newly laid if possible

Wash and dry the lemons. Finely grate the rinds and squeeze and strain the juice. Put the juice and grated rind into the top of a large double saucepan (or in a bowl over a pan of hot water) with the butter and sugar. Cook slowly over hot water until the butter has melted and the sugar has dissolved completely.

Beat the eggs lightly in a bowl and pour them into the lemon mixture through a fine sieve. Cook the mixture gently, stirring constantly, until the curd thickens enough to coat the back of a wooden spoon. On no account boil the mixture or it will curdle.

Pour the curd into spotlessly clean heated jars. Top each jar with a waxed paper disc, pressing out any air bubbles, cover and label the jars and as soon as they are cool, store them in the refrigerator.

Grapefruit and mint sorbet is a marvellously refreshing first course to serve when appetites are wilted by summer heat. It is equally good as a winter pudding—an unexpected antidote to seasonal stodge and central heating. For those who are old enough to indulge, a glug of well-iced vodka or schnapps over the top takes a lot of beating.

Herb farms supply mint to greengrocers all year round, so order a bunch if it is not on view.

Grapefruit and mint sorbet
Serves eight

- 2 large grapefruit
- 300ml (½ pint) water
- 225g (8oz) granulated sugar
- A handful of fresh mint
- 2 egg whites
- 2 tablespoons icing sugar

Finely grate the rind from grapefruit and put it in a small pan with the water and sugar. Heat the mixture slowly until the sugar has dissolved completely, then raise the heat and boil the syrup for about five minutes. Roughly chop and bruise the mint. Add it to the hot syrup and set aside until cold. Turn the freezer or freezing compartment of the refrigerator to its coldest setting.

Squeeze the juice from the grapefruit and add it to the cold syrup. Strain the syrup and freeze it until the mixture has the consistency of heavy slush.

Beat the egg whites until they are foamy, add the icing sugar and continue beating until the meringue holds stiff peaks. Turn the partially frozen ice into a chilled bowl and beat it very thoroughly. Add the meringue and beat them lightly together. Freeze the mixture, covered, until it is firm, whisking it once more during freezing if necessary.

Notes: a shallow metal or plastic tray or box is the best receptacle in which to freeze sorbets and ice creams. The faster they freeze, the better the texture of the ice. If the finished ice is too hard to serve straight from the deep freeze, ripen it in the refrigerator for about 20 minutes.

Crêpes are a splendidly useful standby for unexpected guests or well-nigh instant family meals. I like to keep a stack of lacey home-made pancakes in the freezer, but frozen crêpes are also sold by some freezer centres, and I have recently seen plastic packs of large Breton crêpes which keep for months in the storecupboard. Frozen crêpes thaw in moments if spread on a flat surface at room temperature, and all types can be used for sweet or savoury fillings. Any variation on the crêpes Suzette theme is a sure winner. The flames and *flavours are irresistible.*

Crêpes Suzette
Serves six or more

- 110g (4oz) plain flour
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 250ml (8 fl oz) milk
- 3 tablespoons melted butter or peanut oil
- 85g (3oz) unsalted butter
- 85g (3oz) caster sugar
- Finely grated rind and juice of 2 large oranges
- 3 tablespoons cognac
- 3 tablespoons orange Curacao, Cointreau or Grand Marnier

Sift the flour and salt into a bowl and make a well in the centre. Add the eggs and a little of the milk. Gradually draw in the flour to make a thick, smooth batter. Add the remaining milk, a little at a time, stirring constantly until the batter has the consistency of a single cream. The batter should be beaten as little as possible. Overbeating will result in tough crêpes. Rest the batter for one to 24 hours in the refrigerator. Just before using the batter, stir in the melted butter. Thin the mixture with a little more milk if necessary.




Heat a small, heavy crêpe or omelette pan on a medium heat and grease it very lightly with a piece of crumpled kitchen paper wiped on a knob of butter. Pour in just enough batter to coat the base of the pan (usually two or three tablespoons) and cook until the underside of the pancake is golden. Run a knife or spatula round the edge of the pancake to loosen it, and turn it over carefully. Cook until the second side is lightly coloured.

To keep the pancakes warm stack them on a plate over a pan of simmering water with a leaf of greaseproof paper between each one. To freeze the crêpes, simply wrap the stack loosely in foil and freeze in the usual way.

The first one or two crêpes in any batch seldom turn out perfectly. One always seems to waste a couple while adjusting the heat correctly and working out exactly the right quantity of batter to use for each pancake.

A very large frying pan or big, oval gratin dish made of enamelled cast iron is the best implement for the next phase of the recipe, unless you keep a capacious copper job specially for flaming things in.

Melt the butter in the pan over a low heat and stir in the sugar. Cook gently together until the mixture begins to give off just the faintest whiff of caramel. Be careful not to let it darken too much or the sauce will be bitter. Stir in the orange juice and finely grated rind.

Now you need to work fast and methodically or the sauce will be soaked up by the first crêpes before the last few are in the pan. Take the first crêpe and lay it prettiest side down in the pan. Fold it in half, then in half again to make a wonky triangle and move it to the side of the pan. Repeat the operation until all the crêpes have been used up. If the first pan is certain to become too crowded to work in, lift each folded crêpe into a second pan as soon as it is done.

Combine the cognac and orange liqueur in a small pan and warm them gently. Pour the liquid over the crêpes, stand back and set light to it immediately. Serve as soon as the flames die down.

* *A facsimile reprint of parts I and II of* The Country Housewife and Lady's Director, *which first appeared in 1727 and 1732, with a glossary, notes and bibliography by Caroline Davidson, is published by Prospect Books, London, price £18.*

مكبرا من الاصل

Government taking action against local authorities which delay sale of council houses to tenants

House of Commons

The Government would ensure that council, new town and housing association tenants were not denied the right to buy their properties by delays and the administrative action of Labour-controlled local authorities, Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, said at question time.

Mr Anthony Durant (Reading, North, C) had asked how many letters the Department of the Environment had received from council tenants complaining that their local authorities were hindering their right to buy.

Mr Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling, C): The department has received approximately 2,000 letters from tenants complaining about delay in a small minority of local authorities.

Each of these individual complaints is being pursued by the Department with the authority concerned.

In addition, the department has now taken up formally with the following 16 authorities their rate of progress in implementing the right to buy:

Bolsover, Bristol, Doncaster, Great Yarmouth, Hull, Leeds, Manchester, Sheffield, Stoke-on-Trent, Sunderland, Wolverhampton, and the London boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Camden, Greenwich, Lambeth and Newham.

Mr Durant: That is a depressing answer. Bearing in mind that this is the law of the land, will he look at the situation where some local authorities are not passing the documents to the valuation departments in order that they can continue with their purchase?

As for Lambeth borough, would he come to the House when he has investigated and make a statement about the scandal in the papers today and even consider putting in commissioners, bearing in mind that this is the law and that we are here to defend the rights of the citizen? (Conservative cheers).

Mr Stanley: On the general point, the Government is concerned to see that all local authority, new town and housing association tenants have the right to buy and are able to exercise that right.

The Government will ensure they are not denied that opportunity by delays and administrative action by Labour-controlled local authorities.

On valuations, I agree there are signs of a bottle-neck in some authorities in processing. It is incumbent upon them all to make the instructions available quickly to district valuers or other valuation services which they use to get the valuations done.

We wish to continue our inquiry with Lambeth Council. We will be glad to inform the House what the position is there.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C): What advice does he give to tenants in Labour-controlled authorities which are dragging their feet? Many thousands have not yet contacted his department as to what they can do about it.

What positive assurance will the Government give that it will take action to oblige recalcitrant councils to perform their rights and duties?

Mr Stanley: It is open to any tenant who has submitted a "Right to Buy" application form and has not received a response notice within the statutory period to tell the local authority and the department. We have made that clear in the "Right to Buy" application form.

Any tenant can make direct contact with the Department of the Environment to give it information about where that application is.

Under Section 23 of the Housing Act it is open to the Secretary of State to intervene where it appears to him that tenants have had or may have difficulty in exercising their right to buy effectively and expeditiously.

The Secretary of State is assessing progress in each and every authority against that yardstick.

Mr Richard Alexander (Newark, C): Will he consider adding the district council of Gateshead to that list?

It is understood that threats are being made to potential purchasers as to the type of neighbours they may receive. This sort of threat to a would-be purchaser is an infringement of their rights under the Act.

If the Secretary of State considers it as such, will he exercise his powers under Section 23 and intervene with the local authority concerned?

Mr Stanley: *I will be glad to* consider any information he cares to send me about the rate of progress in that authority.

I deplore any steps being taken *by elected councillors to try to* intimidate and in any way prevent people exercising their rights under the law.

Mr David Stoddart (Swindon, Lab): Could he confirm that he has had correspondence from people against the sale of council houses and has received from me a petition from the Townswomen's Guild and many other people, *including the whole council in* Swindon, against the sale of the railway villa, a listed building built in 1840?

People in Swindon are frightened that if this is sold to individuals our inheritance will be destroyed. (Conservative laughter.)

Mr Stanley: The electorate as a whole expressed its view on this matter in May, 1979, and wished to give tenants the right to buy their homes.

Mr Tristan Garel-Jones (Watford, C): Nearly 1,000 of my constituents in Watford have tried to buy from the local authority and have received a letter from it telling them that no repairs will be undertaken.

Since the local authority is dragging its feet, people find themselves in a position where no repairs can be made on their houses and no offers to buy can be made to them. (Conservative shouts of "Shame".)

Mr Stanley: I assure him that the statutory responsibility of the local authority in respect of repairs to council houses continues as long as that house remains in their ownership.

Mr Kenneth Eastham (Manchester, Blackley, Lab): He persists in attacking Labour authorities about the sale of council houses. Would he admit that it was his department and the Civil Service which are responsible for compiling the statutory forms?

As a result of the confusion of these statutory forms in Manchester, there were 4,000 applications, 29 per cent of which had *to be returned, they so confused* the applicants. That is a direct result of the guidance from his department.

Mr Stanley: Last Friday I had the pleasure of meeting representatives of the Manchester Tenants' House Buyers' Association. The entire burden of what they said was that they had many thousands of applications submitted to the council, many hundreds where the right to buy had been acknowledge.

Our difficulty is getting an adequate rate of progress by the Manchester Council.

Minister may ask local councils to declare all land holdings

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said during questions he was considering requiring the whole of local government to declare its holdings of land.

Mr Heseltine (Henley, C) answering questions about land owned by local authorities, said: The compilation of registers for 33 districts and London boroughs is under way, with the aim of publication in April.

Public bodies are providing information according to standard criteria under guidance from my department. This does not include information on land values.

I already have power to direct the disposal of land entered on a register, but I am hoping that the publication of site details, coupled with supporting work by the local authorities and business communities, will in most cases be enough to activate disposals.

He added: No time will be lost in scrutinizing the list of sites that *appear on the registers.*

I have already undertaken the process of setting up tripartite teams consisting of a representative from local government, my department and the private sector to go through every site on these registers.

I shall want to be satisfied before I agree that they remain in the private sector.

Mr John Heddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C): With land being our most valuable natural resource, it is criminal that local authorities, statutory undertakings and public corporations can sit on land.

Would he consider extending these registers beyond the 30 local authorities to the country as a whole?

Mr Heseltine: Because this is a new method of disposing of land I felt that it was right to proceed at a reasonable pace in the first place and to take 33 registers as a method of finding out how the process works.

I am considering now requiring local government as a whole to *declare their holdings of land*. This would mean that there would be an availability of knowledge, but that would not be the same thing as establishing a register, which carries with it the power of compulsory disposal.

That would be a second step if I think revelations of the land disclosure in the hands of local government justify such a register.

The Ordnance Survey will this year have a deficit of £21m and it was an expensive facility, **Mr Tom King**, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said during questions.

Mr King (Bridgwater, C), answering *questions on the future of Ordnance Survey*, said: I hope in the next few weeks to be able to make a statement on the recommendations of the Ordnance Survey review committee and on an immediate operating remit for the Ordnance Survey.

I also have in hand an examination of the possibilities for giving the Ordnance Survey a more independent status. This last study will take rather longer to complete.

He added later: that it would be *irresponsible of any Government* not to see in what way this facility might not be organized so that the call on the public exchequer might be modified.

Wider scope sought on truth in lending

There was no good reason to exclude building societies from the obligations that most other lenders had to fulfil, **Mr Kenneth Weetch** (Ipswich, Lab) said when he was given leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Consumer Credit Act 1974.

The purpose of the Bill, he explained, was to require building societies to follow "truth in lending" policies when providing to prospective borrowers information about the financial terms on which mortgages were offered and when displaying such information.

He said the Consumer Credit Act stated that borrowers had to be told the truth about the rate of interest they were being charged. It established a standard of formula for quoting interest rates when they were advertised publically. This was the APR—the annual percentage rate of interest.

The astonishing thing was that the largest lenders of all, building societies, were totally excluded from the provision of the Act.

If (he said) for an ordinary repayment mortgage you think you are borrowing at 15 per cent, then this is not the truth of the matter because the true rate of interest is higher. This is because the building society charges 15 per cent interest on the whole amount of the loan outstanding at the beginning of the year.

In reality, however, people pay monthly and each monthly payment includes a repayment of part of the principal of the loan as well as the interest.

If a person thought he was borrowing at 15 per cent, then over 15 years the true rate of interest was 16.6 per cent, over 20 years it was 16.4 per cent and over 25 years it was 16.2 per cent.

At best this situation was misleading: at worst it was deception.

While building societies were excluded from these obligations, banks and the Trustee Savings Bank were included.

The Bill was based on two principles. The first was that millions of home buyers were worth protecting and it was worth revealing to them the true cost of the credit they paid. The second was with rates of interest and credit as in anything else, the truth was the truth.

Football on Sunday should be exception

Fears that nuisance would be caused to local people by Football League matches on Sundays were voiced by **Mr John Carlisle** (Luton, West, C) who asked about Department of the Environment policy towards the League's proposal for Sunday games.

Mr Hector Monro, Under Secretary for the Environment and Minister for Sport, said: The decision by the Football League is not one in which I have any standing. Policy concerning sporting events on a Sunday is for the Home Secretary.

Mr Carlisle: The staging of Sunday matches will bring extra revenue to the football clubs and will benefit players. But it will bring a certain nuisance to residents around the grounds and extra work for the police.

Will he make representations to the Football League that these games should be the exception rather than the rule and that we do not see a wholesale, mass switching of games from Saturday to Sunday?

Mr Monro (Dumfries, C): I note that. The games are relatively few at the moment. Those in Division Three and Division Four have been reasonably successful. The Football League should consider carefully the effect on the local environment and the load on the police, plus public transport problems. I am sure all these difficulties can be resolved.

Mr Kenneth Marks (Manchester, Gorton, Lab): It is not just a matter for the Football Association and the Football League. It is a social problem.

In some cities, the grounds are in the midst of hundreds and hundreds of terraced houses, causing people serious problems on match days.

Will he ask the FA and the Football League to consider the rights of local people around grounds before any action is taken to play Sunday games in these areas?

Mr Monro: I accept that. So far, the games have been only in the third and fourth divisions. If there are first or second division matches, major games, there would be complications.

I will draw the attention of the FA and the League to the views expressed here today.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): The best thing to do on Sunday is to go to church. After that, people can engage in *any lawful activity.*

Mr Monro: I support that view. Sunday football is a new idea. We shall have to see how it settles down.

Mr Denis Howell, Opposition spokesman on sport, (Birmingham, Small Heath, Lab): The law on Sunday entertainment is unfair as between one leisure activity and another.

Music and theatre is lawful. Cricket and athletics, golf and rugby are tolerated. Association Football is experimenting. Racing wishes to come under starter's orders.

He should act to clear up this confusion and relate the social implications to the sporting considerations involved.

Mr Monro: The interpretation of the Act is one for the courts. But in this House it has always been considered that a change in the Act would be through private members' legislation. The last time it came to the House in 1974, it did not get a second reading.

Work protection law changes wanted by Lord Thorneycroft

House of Lords

The Government had created a situation of nightmare proportions, **Lord Peart** (Lab), leader of the Opposition peers, said when he opened a debate on what he called the unacceptable levels of regional unemployment.

He said the situation was partly *due to the Government's blind* adherence to a catastrophic monetary policy. Towns had been murdered as Jarrow was. In the north areas were being attacked and run down and factory after factory closed.

We must (he said) say "Stop" to Government policy. There must be a U-turn, a change, otherwise there will be darkness for thousands of people in our country.

The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, said that a substantial and lasting improvement *in employment levels* was largely dependent on an upturn in world trade and on Britain's own competitive response to it. The Government had two overriding aims: First, to continue to bring down domestically induced inflation, second, to improve the competitive position of industry.

In the control of domestically induced inflation the Government had been successful and was determined not to surrender this success.

If we were to do so (he said) the terrible inroads which inflation makes on profitability and investment would continue to cut away existing jobs, and just as bad continue to prevent new jobs being created.

The public opinion polls, he continued, were accurate when they indicated that many people would like the Government to give priority to unemployment and not to inflation. The trouble was that unemployment and inflation went together like a horse and carriage. So did interest rates and inflation.

If inflation continues to moderate as we expect (he said) it should be possible to cut interest rates further. The welcome fall in the exchange rate over the past few days appears to be anticipating this.

Unions had been adapting to a falling rather than rising price curve in the present wage round. So far the average settlement had been 9.5 per cent in the private sector and 9 per cent in the public sector. It was a remarkably achieved below price inflation. It was now beginning to sink in that excessive pay claims threatened jobs.

In recent weeks union leaders had joined with industrialists in calling on the Government to lower interest rates and ease the pressure on the pound, and this it hoped to do.

But unions must not expect (he said) to recover in wage rises the price rises which a more competitive pound would bring. If they do so we will not be able to shield them from the consequences of more unemployment.

British industry was now better equipped for international competition than it had been for many years. That was why it was so essential that they did not see another British Government abandoning its economic strategy in the face of political and other pressures as counter inflation took effect.

When the Government's policies (he said) have worked through we shall have a much stronger economy and a better base from which to take advantage of any upturn in world trade. *Inflation is falling at present, and despite the* pound, which I am glad to say has also eased, oud share of world trade is holding well.

There is every reason for confidence if we do not at great cost continue to postpone changes that are bound to come in any case, and if we do not continue down the primrose path of paying ourselves more in wages and social benefits than our production allows.

To go for the alternative cost of reflation at this time would lead to our industry becoming more and *more uncompetitive, would draw* in additional imports and would, in the end, result in still greater unemployment for the country. No better tomorrow lies that way.

Lady Seear (L) said in the regions unemployment in some areas was becoming the norm, and this was dangerous. The costs of unemployment were becoming hideous, not just the amount of money the Government had to pay out in unemployment benefits, but the social costs which were difficult to calculate.

Could not the Government in next week's budget cut the employers' national insurance contribution which was a straight tax on employment. In particular they could cut it advantageously in the regions of higher unemployment. This would encourage labour intensive industry rather than capital intensive industry.

The Bishop of Liverpool, in a maiden speech, said all areas where inner city people lived seemed today to have almost a basic figure of 30 per cent unemployment. There were some encouraging signs in Liverpool. With help from inner city partnership schemes, small advanced factories had been built. That was good news.

But it would take a lot of small businesses to replace the 1,500 jobs lost at Tate and Lyle and the further 1,500 at Courtaulds.

He did not expect there would ever be full employment again in the old terms. I wish we would admit that (he said) because we could then begin a debate about what a civilized society will do for those who are not needed in the market.

Lord Taylor of Gryfe (Lab) said less borrowing by nationalized industries meant greater unemployment and increased expenditure on social security. One unemployed man married with two children increased Government borrowing by about £6,000 a year. Taking into account the tax revenue lost, unemployment was costing at least an extra £7,000m a year and producing nothing.

Lord Thorneycroft (C), chairman of the Conservative Party, said there should not be a general reflation of the economy. In the long-term it would mean the loss of jobs and even in the medium-term would render Britain incapable of taking advantage of the end of the recession, when it came.

He made no apology for the Government spending money. It might be difficult politically to stand up and say they were right to help British Leyland when they came up with a £400m loss. But the thought of watching British Leyland collapse and all the small business around it such as components would have been a tragedy of a major order.

The Government must do something to temper the Employment Protection Act. If the Government was going to encourage small business to employ people, it was no good if they were firmly of the opinion that they had virtually to marry the people they employed and they were not prepared to go on with it. There should be no apology for scaling it down still further and maximizing the assets the nation had.

He was not asking that energy should be subsidized like in the United States. But industry after industry and activity after activity was not getting bulk supplies of energy on the same scale as competitors overseas.

Constructive intervention was an in phrase in the Conservative Party. He was a constructive interventionist. The Earl of Gowrie, as energy spokesman, should start to operate in that direction.

Viscount Watkinson (C) said the Government might have to consider *awkward matters* like early retirement. It might also have to think about having one year's public service for school leavers to give them the chance of a year's useful employment. These were examples of new thinking in the long term to cope with the problem of unemployment.

Lord Boardman (C) said that industry had carried an excessive burden of energy prices for far too long. It had added substantially to the levels of unemployment.

Lord Polwarth (C) said they were at last beginning to see results in bringing down inflation which was still the main threat. The medicine was beginning to work but the time had come to start reducing the dose.

Lord Fisher of Rednal (Lab) said the Conservative Party must recognize that when the recession was over they would not get rid of people's bitter memories. There was fear that the West Midlands with its heavy dependence on manufacturing industry could suffer irreparable damage if the Government did not change its monetary policy.

Lord Balfour of Inchrye (C) asked when the battle of inflation had been won, would the price of victory be such that industries great and small could not find the capital for restarting and rebuilding their enterprises?

There should be some control of the limitless foreign imports in selected trades. For the sake of employment and industrial survival at a time of world recession certain cases should be guaranteed some quatitiative control of their imports.

The Earl of Halsbury (Ind) said investment was the overall clue to full employment. For 36 self-contradictory years since the war, Britain had treated profits as a dirty business and those who made them as antisocial and had killed the goose that laid the golden egg.

Lord Jacques (Lab) said the Government should get the rate of interest drastically down. The advantages would be far greater than the disadvantages. Coupled with that, the Government should do every*thing in its power to get the pound* into line with the domestic price level. As long as it was above the domestic price level, industries were being bled dry.

North Sea oil tax receipts should go into a fund for the redevelopment of Britain.

Lord Kaldor (Lab) said demand must be stimulated, and in that sense recovery and reflation were inseparable.

Lord Mottistone (C) said the scheme for people who went to university as mature students paid for by the state should be extended to everybody to allow them to take two-year courses of a mixture of public service and education and training. People should be able to take the course whenever they wanted to in their lives.

The debate was concluded.

Lambeth should fulfil its obligations

The Government would expect Lambeth Council to recover possession of "Right to Buy" applications for purchase of council houses by tenants reported to have been impounded by local officials involved in industrial action.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, said during questions.

Mr Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling, C) stated: I have read with concern press reports about industrial action in Lambeth to impound "Right to Buy" claim forms, alleged to have been carried out by *local officials. It has not* been possible to establish the precise facts with the council.

But if the reports are correct, this action would be the most serious abuse. The Government would expect Lambeth Council to recover the "Right to Buy" documents and fulfil its obligations to process the applications without delay.

Mr William Shelton (Lambeth, Streatham, C): Many people in Lambeth wish to buy their council homes. The letters held up number three or four hundred. It is scandalous and something must be done as soon as possible about it.

Mr Stanley: I agree.

Foreign students to get more aid

Mr Guy Barnett (Greenwich, Lab) asked the Government to mitigate the effects of increased fees to be charged to students from overseas *studying in the United Kingdom* during 1981-82.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, in a written reply, said: The Government has decided to allocate sufficient aid funds to training programmes in 1981-82 to restore the number of new awards for students and trainees from developing countries under Government to Government programmes and the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan to approximately the levels of 1978 *and 1979*.

We have also extended for 1981-82 the Fee Support Scheme and we plan to make up to 300 awards available under this scheme to selected privately financed post graduate students from developing countries who are suffering hardship as a result of fee increases.

Essential repairs at Houses of Parliament

Urged to carry out repair work to the Palace of Westminster, **Mr Geoffrey Finsberg**, Under Secretary for the Environment, said he had authorized essential structural *repairs to and repainting of the* roof of Victoria Tower at a cost of £80,000 after receiving professional advice from the Property Services Agency.

A further £11,000 is likely to be spent in the current year (he said) *as part of a continuous programme* of replacements of the weathered statues around the Colonnade.

Mr Greville Janner (Leicester, West, Lab): Would the plans include the repair of the masonry around the Members' Entrance, part of which collapsed this week?

Will he be less selective in the dangers he is perpetuating and arrange for them to fall outside the public entrance as well, or is he waiting for a general election, a recess or for the death of all *skilled stone masons, before this* Palace is put into proper order?

Mr Finsberg: He would not wish exaggerate. We have already removed potentially dangerous coping stones, brushed off the scroll stone surfaces, and spent over £105,000 on making safe the stonework above doorways. We are proposing during the summer the replacement of stone copings.

There is a major problem here. With the best will in the world we are not able in a limited time to repair the ravages of the weather of a century or more.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): When will the department start cleaning the whole of the outside of the Palace of Westminster? It needs doing badly.

Mr Finsberg: We are still trying to decide how best to allocate the limited amount of funds available, bearing in mind that the total cost is £5m.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debate on Opposition motion on education.

House of Lords

Today at 3: European Assembly Elections Bill, committee. Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Bill, report.

Strict control over trans-shipment of fish in British waters

The new Sea Fish Industry Authority should be able to operate with*in a flexible framework*, **Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith**, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said on the report stage of the Fisheries Bill he moved a new clause giving the industry Government guarantees on borrowing.

Mr Buchanan-Smith (Angus North and Mearns, C) said the new clause provided enabling powers for the authority to borrow funds for the exercise of its powers. Certain lending institutions, such as the European Investment Bank, *would only make loans if they* obtained Government guarantees *on repayment of the loan principal* and interest.

It would be helpful for the authority to borrow from such sources so the Government was going to provide such guarantees in respect of principal and interest.

Mr Gavin Strang, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture and fisheries (Edinburgh, East, Lab) said they were happy to support the new clause as it gave addi*tional financial flexibility* to the new authority.

The new clause was agreed to as was another new clause enabling Ministers, with Treasury consent, to make grants to the authority for expenses incurred in fulfilling guarantees in respect of cooperatives.

It also covered losses incurred by the authority following foreign exchange fluctuations where it borrowed money in one currency and lent it in another.

The process of trans-shipping fish had caused increasing concern in recent years to the fishing industry and general public and there was a need to introduce a licensing system as a form of control. **Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith**, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in moving a new clause (Licensing of vessels receiving trans-shipped fish).

This was considered with another new clause (Enforcement of provisions as to trans-shipment) and other amendments.

He said that the trans-shipment *of fish involved the practice* where the United Kingdom's catching vessels caught fish and then transferred the catch to another vessel, frequently foreign which was moored in United Kingdom waters. The second vessel carried out further processing on the fish which was subsequently exported abroad.

This practice had gained increasing attention off the West coast of Scotland and the South and South-West coast of England. It had caused increasing concern to the fishing industry and the general public.

He was satisfied that the power to require receiving vessels to be licensed could be a useful additional measure of control over trans-shipment.

It was only fair and reasonable that receiving vessels as well as fishing vessels should be guilty of an offence if illegal trans-shipments took place. That was the reason for the new clauses.

A minister would have the power to prohibit by order trans-shipments except under authority of licence granted by the minister. It would be an offence to contravene the order.

The enabling power was drawn as widely as possible so that ministers could react to any particular circumstances.

An associated new clause made it possible for officers of bodies corporate to be prosecuted for *offences committed by those* bodies.

Trans-shipment had given wide cause for concern and although he was reasonably satisfied that the original Bill would have helped to police trans-shipment more effectively, they were not dealing with a static situation but one which had changed rapidly through the years and could again change dramatically.

Mr Gavin Strang, an Opposition spokesman on fisheries (Edinburgh, East, Lab), said the most important development they could achieve for the industry would be to persuade the Government that it was right to license the operations.

The operation of the factory trans-shipment vessels or klondikers had been something of a national scandal. He referred particularly to mackerel. In 1979, two-thirds of mackerel caught in United Kingdom waters had been sold directly to the factory ships, and not landed in British ports.

The operation of trans-shipment, *particularly of mackerel in recent* years, had involved substantial abuse of conservation measures. Unrestricted fishing for mackerel would have led to decimation of those stocks in the way they had allowed the herring stocks to be eliminated.

If the Government meant business it must be prepared to withdraw licences from klondikers contravening British regulations. But how could penalties be made effective against these large East German and Russian vessels, for instance? The licensing system should be introduced quickly.

Mr James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab) said klondiking was a somewhat poetic and romantic word but it had connoted almost a sense of evil in the last few months. Ill-informed people seemed to think that klondiking consisted of Communist vessels entering the English Channel, sometimes six miles off the coast, and getting stuck in with 10,000 tonnes or more of mackerel.

There was no black market *involved in open exchange on the* water. He would like to see all fish caught by British vessels, giving work to people in British ports, but what had been happening was quite legitimate.

Mr Buchanan-Smith *said* that there was nothing wrong in trans-shipment. He would like to see more shore-based facilities taking advantage of trans-shipment but it was not possible to have sufficient shore based facilities to process seasonal fishery when that capacity would be under-utilized for parts of the year.

These were enabling powers. A licensing scheme would have to be introduced by order. He had no immediate plans to introduce such a scheme. He would be able to assess the new control measures and in the light of experience of how they worked introduce a licensing scheme. Before doing that he would consult all those interested.

The new clause was agreed to. **Mr Gavin Strang**, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture, fisheries and food (Edinburgh, East, Lab), moving a new clause providing for the appointment of a sea fish industry authority consultative committee, said it would consist of between 15 and 20 people, probably nearer 20. The Opposition believed that this committee would have status in the industry and *would be speaking for the* industry.

The Government had shown a lack of courage here. Regrettably, in an amendment being considered with the new clause to increase the size of the Sea Fish Industry Authority from six to 12 members, it was going to try to use its majority in the House to reverse a change made in committee.

Mr Buchanan-Smith said the broad view of the industry had remained in favour of the proposal in the Bill as originally drafted.

They must ensure that the authority commanded the confidence and respect of the industry and were more likely to do that with representatives of the industry serving on it. Those who paid the levy should have some say in how it was spent.

Mr Jo Grimond (Orkney and Shetland, L) said the new authority must continue to go outside and consult widely throughout the industry. All sections or areas would not be wholly happy if they were not represented on the authority unless they had a greater assurance of wide and frequent consultations on vital matters.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C) said he was concerned that the eight members appointed from the fishing industry would not have any say in the financial provisions. He hoped the minister would look at this again.

Mr Austin Mitchell (Grimsby, Lab) said he believed the House should confirm the decision taken *in committee. But if there were to* be eight representatives from the industry on the authority, how were they to be selected?

The new clause was negatived and the amendment was carried by 183 votes to 139—Government majority, 44.

Pulling down houses put up in wrong place

The Department of the Environment is considering ways of speeding up the procedure for dealing with appeals against the demolition of houses built without complying with planning consent *Mr Giles Shaw*, Under Secretary, for the Environment, said.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C) had asked whether it was the Government's policy that where a house was built in a position which did not comply with planning consent, it should be removed.

Mr Shaw (Pudsey, C): Not necessarily:

Mr Farr: It is possible by the ingenious use of the appeal machinery to delay demolition of a house improperly built almost *indefinitely. Is that right?*

Will he look into ways of speeding up the machinery so that when a house is deemed to have been built in an improper position it is demolished without delay?

Mr Shaw: There are many cases where amelioration can be made to the building which would not require demolition. We have to ensure that a fair balance is struck. This is why there is an appeal system.

Mr Bruce Douglas-Mann (Merton, *Mitcham and Morden, Lab): There* is scope for abuse of the system in which it is possible for someone who applied for planning consent, had it refused, has an appeal rejected but then has the enforcement procedure held up while a fresh application is made.

This procedure, which is capable of going on almost indefinitely, is one that might require legislative action to prevent it.

Mr Shaw: There could be ways of speeding up the appeal procedure *to deal with the matter more* quickly. We are looking at this already.

Ministers urged to act in closed shop cases

House of Lords

The Government strongly condemned Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council in its disgraceful closed shop policy, the **Earl of Gowrie**, Minister of State for Employment, said during a question on the disciplinary action taken by the council against Miss *Joanna Harris and her colleagues.*

Lord Harris of Greenwich (Soc Dem) asked: Will the Government make a statement on their attitude towards the closed shop policies of the Sandwell and Walsall district councils?

Do they regard the disciplinary action taken against Miss Joanna Harris and her colleagues in Sandwell and Miss Joan Cooper and her colleagues in Walsall as lawful and if not do the Secretary of State for Employment and the Secretary of State for the Environment propose to warn the local authorities concerned that their members are putting themselves at risk of being surcharged by the district auditor?

The Earl of Gowrie: The Government has strongly condemned Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council for its disgraceful closed shop policy and affirm their support for those whose jobs have been threatened.

From reports it appears that Walsall council may be behaving in a similar manner in relation to their employees and if this should be the case the Government would be equally forthright in condeming Walsall council's policies too.

It is clear that Sandwell council is *deliberately infringing* the statutory rights of their employees under the Employment Act. 1980. In such a case it is open to anyone to raise the matter with the district auditor who may decide to investigate and the result could well be a court order holding individual *councillors* responsible to repay the expenditure from their own resources.

Lord Harris of Greenwich: Could he ask the Secretary of State formally to warn the local authorities concerned of what is contemplated. What is contemplated in the case of both these local authorities is a disgraceful attack upon the civil liberties of these women who are taking a position under immense pressure from their employers.

In this situation, it is right that members of the local authority should be formally warned by the Government that the Government itself would draw these matters to the attention of the district auditor because only in these circumstances is it likely that they will avoid dismissing these women who then will only have claims of compensation.

The Earl of Gowrie: The Government has made its disapproval and condemnation quite unconditional. The remedy *which he postulates* is available to the people concerned as a result of the Government's legislation.

Financial difficulties recognized

Mr Strang moved an Opposition amendment to provide that the authority should establish and operate a deficiency payments schem eto protect the livelihoods of those in the industry.

The financial position of the industry was worse now than it had been last August when they welcomed the aid given by the Government. They had then made lcear that if there were no improvement in the fortunes of the *industry* the Government should come forward with additional money, and/or action to control imports.

It was vital that the Government should act quickly to help the industry. They were looking at the cheap import question and some of that fish had been caught illegally in British waters by foreign vessles flouting British conservation measures.

Prices at British ports had not been adequate to give the industry anything like the return it needed to pay for its labour and to give adequate profit for future investment.

Mr Austin Mitchell (Grimsby, Lab) said the over-valuation of the pound was one reason for the fish imports. Fish could be imported more cheaply than the nation's own industry could catch it. EEC countries were cheating on quotas. The solution was to manage the markets with deficiency payments.

Mr Buchanan-Smith said there were already powers in the Bill for the Government to provide money for any kind of financial scheme and it could ask the authority to administer any scheme. The amendment was unnecessary.

If one was going to introduce a deficiency payments scheme it would require an enormous amount of preparation. It would raise complexities. He would not want to give any encouragement to the House or industry that this was a scheme they could easily contemplate as being introduced.

The Government's financial review of the industry had been brought forward. A meeting had already taken place at which the industry put forward a number of suggestions, including a variation of the deficiency payments scheme. It would be carefully considered but he saw considerable difficulties and misgivings regarding the practicalities of such a scheme.

The amendment was rejected by 169 votes to 125—Government majority, 44.

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North, Lab) said the accident rate for fatalities in the fishing industry was 20 times that of the coal industry. He moved an amendment *giving the authority power to make* regulations to ensure operational safety in any matters relating to the industry. Inspectors would be appointed to ensure compliance with regulations and to keep records of accidents.

The amendment was rejected by 142 votes to 93—Government majority, 49.

An Opposition amendment to end the casual nature of the work of fishermen was rejected by 148 votes to 91—Government majority, 57.

The report stage was concluded and the Bill read the third time.

NCB trials on making transport fuel from coal

Mr Raymond Powell (Ogmore, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Energy, what was the amount of research and development taking place sponsored by the oil, gas and coal industries and by the Government and others into the abstraction of by-products from coal, such as gasification, liquefaction, oil, gas, chemicals, petrol and other premium products.

Mr John Moore, Under Secretary for Energy, in a written reply, said: *British Gas have a major* long-term programme to develop processes to manufacture substitute natural gas and within this are constructing a commercially sized version of the slagging gasifier at their Westfield Development Centre.

The NCB has devised two processes to produce transport fuels from coal and Government has made a major contribution to the cost of design studies for pilot plants to develop these processes.

The NCB is also participating in an IEA project on coal pyrolysis aimed at liquid and gaseous products. Government has provided a major portion of the United Kingdom contribution to the project.

Ordnance Survey deficit

The Ordnance Survey will this year have a deficit of £21m and it was an expensive facility, **Mr Tom King**, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said during questions.

Mr King (Bridgwater, C), answering questions on the future of Ordnance Survey, said: I hope in the next few weeks to be able to make a statement on the recommendations of the Ordnance Survey review committee and on an immediate operating remit for the Ordnance Survey.

I also have in hand an examination *of the possibilities for giving* the Ordnance Survey a more independent status. This last study will take rather longer to complete.

127,900 housing starts

Mr Geoffrey Finsberg, Under Secretary for Environment, in a written reply, said: Provisional figures show that in England in 1980 there were 44,300 housing *starts in the public sector and* 83,600 in the private sector.

The number of public sector starts this year will depend largely on decisions taken by local authorities on the use of their housing investment programme allocations.

In the private sector it will depend on the commercial judgments of private housebuilders.

Michael Apted's American gamble

Coal Miner's Daughter, the film biography of the country singer Loretta Lynn opens in London next week after great success in the United States. Both the New York and Los Angeles Film Critics voted Sissy Spacek Best Actress for her remarkable impersonation in the title role (including singing all Loretta Lynn's hits). But the *real* surprise of the film is that it was directed by an Englishman, Michael Apted.

It was Apted who captured the regional basis for *Coal Miner's Daughter*. The film is set in the Appalachians, a poor-white area which is a mystery to most Americans, let alone a Cambridge graduate whose career has been spent at Granada TV and at the BBC. At 39, Apted has become the latest British director to break into Hollywood's charmed circle, joining Alan Parker and Ridley Scott, as well as veterans like John Schlesinger, Ken Russell and Tony Richardson.

"It's taken me a long time", Apted says. "I did it the hard way. I spent six or seven years shuttling backwards and forwards, working in TV in England, making trips to Los Angeles and trying to get something off the ground. In the end, I came out to Hollywood to do another film entirely, that film fell through, and I just happened to be around when Universal fired their original director for *Coal Miner's Daughter*.

"Sissy's support was very important in getting me the job, and I think the film turned out so well because the two of us formed a common front from the beginning. The original director hadn't wanted to use her. She tells the story of going into his office one day and he had the *Newsweek* cover with Loretta Lynn on his desk. He said, 'This is the material we're dealing with and you're nothing like her.'

"Sissy and I really got together over the issue of her doing her own singing in the film. A lot of people thought we were insane, especially since I wanted to record some songs live on location. I didn't know if she could sing: I was taking a risk. My attitude was that here is an intelligent gifted woman to whom this film is just as important as it is to me. If she says she can sing, she can sing."

Having a harmonious relationship with his star broke a run of bad luck for Apted, whose two previous films were bitter battles. After starting strongly with *The Triple Echo* and *Stardust*, he ran into problems on *Trick or Treat*, with Bianca Jagger, and *Agatha*, a fictional account of Agatha Christie's disappearance, with Vanessa Redgrave and Dustin Hoffman.

"After *Trick or Treat*, I felt very depressed and worried that I was losing my grip. In fact, if my younger son hadn't been seriously ill at the time I think I'd have had a nervous breakdown. His illness put the work problem into perspective. I'd made a succession of serious errors of judgment—about preparing the script, about casting—which created the situation Bianca exploited to cause havoc. In the end, we had to abandon the film. With *Agatha* it was a different story. I felt we were overwhelmed by outside circumstances. The fact that there was 100 minutes of semi-coherent film at all was solely down to me and Vittorio Storaro, the cinematographer. If we'd quit, they'd have had nothing. And I'm not sure we could have foreseen what happened. I mean, what director, told Dustin Hoffman was going to be in his movie, would say, forget it?"

Although clashes between Hoffman's organization and Vanessa Redgrave and others nearly sank *Agatha*, "the irony was that, for all the horrendous difficulties, the film helped my career. Hollywood had liked *Stardust*. Then I made a film for Warners called *The Squeeze* which they hated and refused to release in America, so I went back down the ladder three rungs. Then I made *Agatha*, in which I'd directed a major American star, so I went back up four rungs. That's the crazy way the system works."

The success of *Coal Miner's Daughter* has led Apted to move his wife and two sons to Los Angeles. Does this mean he is abandoning Britain for good? "Not at all. It's true that most of the other British directors working in America still live in England—it's a decision we all talk about. It seems to come down to your children. The others want to keep their kids at English schools, we decided to try them in school in the States. Even so, I only made an emotional commitment to America after I knew *Coal Miner's Daughter* would do well. We still have a house in England and I still want to work there if I can find the right material.

"The importance of *Coal Miner's Daughter* to me is that I've proved to the studios I can do it—not only make the crossover from English to American films, but also make a good film which is a commercial film as well. People have always said about me, we know he can do decent work, but has he any idea what people want to pay to see? I began to believe it myself. I began to think my personal choice of material was so arty and off-beat, I really *didn't* know."

A tall, restless man, given to much pacing about behind his cameras, Apted has recently completed his second American film, *Continental Divide*, a romantic comedy with John Belushi and Blair Brown. "It wasn't my choice of what to do next. I had two projects I really wanted to make which fell through. But I'm a working director and I need to earn a living. I'm not one of those people prepared to sit around for five years between films."

Both in British television and now in his film-making career, Apted is known as a gambler, particularly in how he casts his films. Does he consciously take risks with his actors? "Absolutely. I think if a film is going to be exciting, you must gamble. *Continental Divide* is a nice piece of material, very well written, but unless you have a really unusual ingredient in the casting it's something Glenda Jackson and Walter Matthau could do standing on their heads. Instead, I've got Belushi in his first straight role."

Does he find American actors easier to work with than English actors?

"Not easier, but different. There's a much stronger literary and theatrical tradition in England. In America, they're much more willing to do less, to put their own personalities on film rather than try to find a character. And by doing less to reveal more of themselves. The trouble with England is that people just don't get enough practice in film acting. People I've worked with who are natural film actors, who have a feeling for it, like Adam Faith in *Stardust*—if Adam Faith was American, he'd be terrifically successful, he'd be working all the time.

"I feel comfortable with American material now. There was no great secret to making *Coal Miner's Daughter* work. Appalachia has a lot in common with parts of northern England or Scotland. There's the same warmth and humour among people banding together in the face of poverty and grindingly hard work. As for being a British director in Hollywood, Hollywood traditionally takes great financial risks but small artistic ones, whereas in England we take artistic gambles on very little money. I think the two sides go together quite well and that's why a number of us are starting to succeed here."

Joan Goodman

Apted (left) on set with Tommy Lee Jones

Last night's television

The Life and Times of David Lloyd George
BBC2

Michael Ratcliffe

Philip Madoc starts off with one supreme advantage as an impersonator of Lloyd George: he commands a marvellous Celtic *pianissimo* with which to gain the attention and from which he can, as it were, both rise to the occasion and warm to his theme. You may not believe a word of it at the time, but you will continue to listen in the hope that some possibility of belief might be offered—which sooner of later, of course, it is. It was when Mr Madoc produced this ace for the first time, and the line dividing sincerity from speciousness vanished hopelessly out of sight, that Elaine Morgan's new series came to life.

Otherwise, it was a typical episode 1. The passing of time was often quite clumsy: the rebellious boy became the young Criccieth lawyer, into his first blackmail, marriage, bastard and legitimate son, and his first triumph in court which led to adoption and return as Liberal member of Parliament for Caernarvon Boroughs in 1889. Torches lit the walls of the castle for the new Prince of North Wales. Presumably we can slow down a bit now: there are eight episodes to come.

So much care has been taken to establish the randy boyo's sexual charm that the people's leader rather took second place. Young David's fatal flaw was carefully softened by shots of his lovability and wit, whizzing saucily through God's countryside on a very large bike, and leaving tryst-notes in the drystone walling above the sandhills. We saw the Welsh landscape—the blue coastline, the luminous beach—entirely through his eyes, and violin, clarinet and flute sang that we were right to do so. Who could possibly resist?

Well, the piamising adventuress nearly did—I hope we have seen the last of her—and Margaret Owen, as played by Lisabeth Miles, is going to quite soon. Every inch the difficult, loving, sharp yet curiously dim woman David Lloyd George set his wicked and ambitious young heart on marrying, she makes a fine match for Madoc. There is little yet to suggest that *The Life and Times of David Lloyd George*, produced by John Hefin, will be anything extraordinary but much that it will be touching and intelligent, and give a great deal of pleasure over the next two months.

The Glazebrook Touch
BBC2

Miles Kington

To look at and to listen to, piano tuning is about as exciting an activity as hitch-hiking at night on an empty road. Bob Glazebrook, it was made clear early on, is not just a piano tuner; he is Steinway's chief technician or, in his own words, "technical consultant to the artistic world of piano playing", and it was interesting to learn just how much personalized adjustment a concert grand needs before a top pianist is happy. But whether you call it piano tuning or technical consultancy, it still looks like fiddling around inside a piano, and Philip Speight, the producer of last night's study of Glazebrook, had the devil of a job to make it look interesting, especially as some of the cutting between sequences was pretty arbitrary.

His solution, most of the time, was to present Glazebrook in company with famous pianists, like a vet trying to calm so many highly strung pedigree cows. An ambition I toy with from time to time is to produce the first honest sex magazine, called "Simulated Ecstasy", and I now realize that concert pianists would make the ideal models, from the neck up. Ask them to test a piano, and the merest scrap of Schubert sends a look of the most unbearable passion drifting across their faces: their heads go this way and that, as if the intensity was killing them — I honestly thought Peter Frankl was going to burst into tears at one point, and felt I should leave the room out of respect.

What saved the programme was Glazebrook's own cheery down-to-earthness and his line of talk which, though slow, was full of interest. The best scene by far occurred when, with the nearest concert pianist a hundred miles away, he was called in by Lady Aberdeen to rescue her 90-year-old Steinway and he had to do the family vet act again: I am afraid this piano must be peacefully put down, your ladyship, or put out to grass. The best scene, that is until ten minutes from the end Bruce Forsyth erupted on the scene like a blast of fresh air to test a borrowed piano, to laugh and joke with Bob, tell a rather good story about the great Erroll Garner playing at the Palladium on a Steinway supported by a beer crate, and to sit at the piano himself and play without the slightest trace of sexual rapture. Nice one, Bruce.

Goose-Pimples
Hampstead

Irving Wardle

With memories of *Abigail's Party* and the sight of a leather-look cocktail bar abutting a suburban fireplace, it is no surprise to find Mike Leigh holding another ghastly get-together for ghastly people.

Vernon, the owner of the flat ("You've got to admit it's me") has invited his fellow car salesman Irving and his lady wife Frankie round for dinner; and on their arrival the theatre is rent with braying laughter and the merry clink of glasses as they try to outdo each other on the subjects of exotic holidays, haute cuisine and interior decoration, while preserving a strict silence on Vernon's furtive affair with the compulsively fault-finding Frankie. When she at last scores a direct hit by confronting her host with three portions of putrescent supermarket steak, the trio decamp in a rage to dine in Wimbledon, leaving the coast clear for the second party to begin.

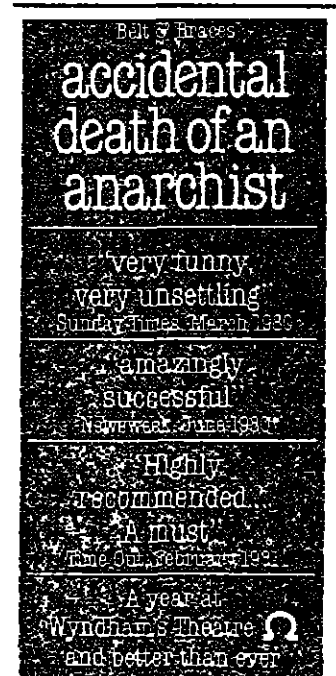
Even meaner than the first, it consists of Vernon's lodger, Jackie, a girl croupier who entices a filthy rich Arab round to the flat with the apparent purpose of impressing the landlord with her glittering social connexions. As there is nobody at home, she marks time by serving Vernon's whisky and making clip-joint small talk to her uncomprehending guest, who is under the impression that he is being entertained in an outlying brothel.

Jackie does nothing to dispel this idea when he mistakes her invitation to dance for a solo performance cue and dutifully throws a thick bankroll on to the mock-leopardskin rug; every note of which she gathers up and clutches into a ball ("Present, is it?"). With those two narrative lines established you can imagine that things go even more vertically downhill when the Wimbledon diners come roaring back full of T-bone steaks ready for a renewed assault on the bar.

As in Mr Leigh's previous shows, the playing text is developed from company improvisation under his direction. This leaves me wondering whether he is disappointed that actors should select such defenceless targets; or whether he encourages them to select easily despised stereotypes so as to flatter his public into a sense of superiority. *Goose-Pimples* is often very funny; but it also has "how we live now" pretensions, which would carry more weight if its creators had set their sights above the car salesman gag, or at least gone out and met a few.

The compensation, as always, is that the roles fit the company like second skins. In this case they rely too heavily on invented comic accents, but their characters do have detailed coherence, and theatrical energy.

The liveliest among them are Jim Broadbent, whose Vernon views everything under his roof as his personal property; Marion Bailey's twitching, hair-patting Jackie, whose every line is a move in the status game; and Antony Sher's Arab, stoically relaxed among the lunatic Londoners, and creating wonderful farcical cadenzas with hardly a line of intelligible dialogue.



Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

L'Africaine
Covent Garden

William Mann

When Covent Garden presented Meyerbeer's last opera a little over two years ago I for one doubted that we would see Franco Enriquez's production again. It had come, with its settings, from Florence, and presumably had to be returned. Like all Meyerbeer's French operas, *L'Africaine* is a long, elaborate, necessarily spectacular piece to stage; and who knew how many operagoers of today were at all interested in such a specimen of French grand opera, venerated in the last century, fallen into desuetude in our own?

Those five performances in the winter of 1978 were sold out, so the production has now returned to Covent Garden with a much revised cast and a new conductor, David Atherton, who contrives to accompany the cast loyally, draw generous playing from the Royal Opera House orchestra, often of striking eloquence, and lovingly tend the music's internal detail, especially where lilt and rhythmic precision are concerned.

Enriquez's production was old-fashioned and static, set in massive pictorial scenery by Fiorella Mariani, such as the work demands, *sine qua non*. The sets are spacious but quite drab, excepting the galleon at sea, rolling in foaming billows and opening to reveal all decks at once. The sight excited a round of applause as did the ultra-realistic, rather vulgar but evocative oriental temple exterior of Act IV (applause during music is bad manners, I believe, though the temptation could be understood). Alfred Rodrigues's ballet looks more inventive and cogent than before, and is more vivaciously danced. Richard Gregson has staged Enriquez's work for this revival, faithfully enough. It would look dull without forceful actors as the principal singers.

Chief among those is Grace Bumbry, who returns to the title role, even more perceptive than before of Sélika's essential goodness and ability to bestride dramatic conflict, even more in command of her music and its French text, which she enunciates best in the whole cast. Her lullaby in the prison scene was poised with true dignity and concern, the various duets splendidly sustained, the final monologue, when she inhales the poisonous scent of manzanilla flowers, greatly touching—though marred by noisy chatter from backstage. Also retained from the 1978 cast are Richard Van Allen's dour, pungent Don Pedro and Silvano Carrolli's Nelusko, more restrained than before, perilous as to rapport with the orchestra pit, but enthusiastic in his grand song "Adamastor, roi des vagues profondes".

L'Africaine deals with an adventure of Vasco de Gama, either in Africa or India—the authors could not make up their minds. Vasco himself is now enacted, in sterling picaresque fashion, by Franco Bonisolli, who has the heroic figure and the fluent, forthcoming, winsome tenor voice for his music. He trumped the favourite "O Paradis" with a brilliant, more animated conclusion; and then with his singing in his subsequent duet with Sélika, perhaps the high-point of the evening.

Vasco's Spanish sweetheart, Inez, is palely taken by Miwako Matsumoto, pretty and dignified but fluttery of voice, sparse with legato until her duet with Sélika, "Par quelle trahison", when the Japanese soprano suddenly revealed unsuspected reserves of power and eloquence. The strength of the cast may be indicated by the presence, much appreciated, of such singers as Robert Tear, Donald McIntyre and Gwynne Howell, in subsidiary roles. There are no French singers in the cast, and most of the text is barely intelligible. *L'Africaine* in English would be a better idea, though internationally celebrated singers might not agree.

Meyerbeer devotees had better flock to this revival, or we will never get the Hugentos we long for on stage.



Grace Bumbry (Sélika) and Franco Bonisolli (Vasco de Gama)

Perlman/Camino
Festival Hall

Paul Griffiths

One asks a great violinist to devote himself body and soul to his instrument without remit. To insist also that he stand back from his artistry, that he be able to look at himself objectively and not take himself seriously all the time, is perhaps to demand too much. Yet Itzhak Perlman has that precious gift of irony, and it brings to his playing a whole new dimension.

He can produce the most dazzling feats of technical brilliance, as he did on Tuesday in Paganini's last Caprice and Sarasate's *Introduction et tarentelle*, and point them up as silly. He can also, more unusually, indulge his fancy in matters of tempo and phrasing while never losing his classical cool, as he showed marvellously in the slow movement of Mozart's C major Sonata, K.296. Or, when he wants to be romantic, he can if he wishes suggest that the pathos is all assumed. He can deflate the most moving expressive phrases even as he plays them, or he can invite his audience to share the illusion.

Powers of this kind enabled him to give, as the jewel of this recital, a performance of Debussy's Sonata such as I have never heard before. The contradictions that normally oblige performers to make a choice between playfulness and genuine emotion, formal orthodoxy and fantasy, could remain as exquisite contradictions. Mr Perlman conceived the whole work as an almost continuous scamper through regions of make-believe and enigma, utterly true in that to Debussy, and he was magnificently partnered by Bruno Canino, a musician of comparable delicacy and dexterity.

Naturally, these players were less at home in the E flat Sonata by Richard Strauss, which offers, instead of Debussy's pretence, pretentiousness. It was the composer's last essay in hyper-Brahms before he decided, thankfully, that his talents lay elsewhere. And it was surely not Mr Perlman's fault that the first movement protested too much and the finale fell apart.

Romeo and Juliet
Coliseum

John Percival

The people who have been writing off Nureyev for the past few years will have to go on doing so for a while longer, judging by the verve with which he led Festival Ballet into their Coliseum season on Tuesday in his own production of *Romeo and Juliet*. There were ticket scalpers outside the theatre as evidence of popularity, and on stage a performance to sustain a reputation.

As Nureyev is dancing only three of the performances (and those are already sold out), let me mention the rest of the company first. There are to be many different interpreters of the title parts over the next fortnight, Tuesday's Rosaline, Benvolio, Mercutio and Paris among them. Those particular roles were all handsomely sustained, with Jay Jolley's blithe but concerned Benvolio a special pleasure.

One notable feature of this production, however, is the way you can rely on all the characters to maintain their interest, and their relative importance, through many changes of cast. The whole choreography derives so closely from the play that you could almost say Nureyev had taken Shakespeare as a collaborator, whereas competing versions tend to derive more from other ballets.

The production is nearly four years old now, but has been maintained with all its details as polished as if they had only just been set. Even when the performers introduce a new touch, as happened on Tuesday when Nicholas Johnson seized the chance for some fun with hats taken from one of the bystanders, they all develop logically in character.

Those merits are important, but what matters most in *Romeo and Juliet* is the way the two lovers are played. Patricia Ruanne, the original Juliet of this production, is at her best in the moments of deep tragedy. Not that there is anything to complain of in the way she shows the playfulness of Juliet before falling in love, but I can imagine that those dances might be given with a greater sense of fun. It will be interesting to see whether any of the other dancers tackling the role achieve that: I am sure it will be hard for them to beat Ruanne's sense of despair at lost love.

As for Nureyev, it is often remarked that his dancing now has less brilliance than it had 10 or 15 years ago. True, but how many male dancers have ever come near his physical virtuosity? And his dancing today has a greater expressiveness than when he first arrived in Britain, a clarity and commitment which are rarely rivalled and, in my experience, unsurpassed.

Aldeburgh Trio
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Hilary Finch

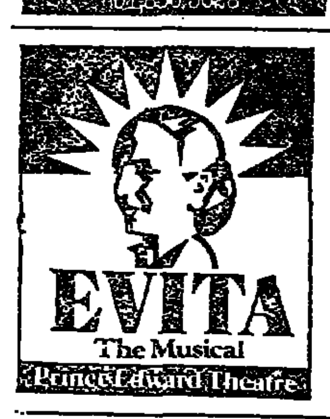
They take their name from the place where they met in 1978, coaching for master classes: since then the Aldeburgh Trio have lost one viola player, Atar Arad, to the Cleveland Quartet and gained Nobuko Imai, only to lose her temporarily (indisposition, we were told; she should be back in June), while the 25-year-old Viennese Thomas Riebl steps in.

Mr Riebl's musical empathy and keen intuitive sense have grown quickly in the eight concerts in which he has so far played with his older partners, Mark Lubotsky and Karoly Botvay. Alert and sensitive to their every mood, his playing in the Schubert B flat major *Trio*, D.581 spoke, particularly in the Menuetto, with eloquent and interestingly coloured timbres of its own.

This first piece was for me altogether the most satisfying of the evening: Mark Lubotsky's winsome, sweetly lyrical first violin caught the fine *thread* of melancholy which runs through the work and, with his colleagues, spun an exquisitely fine-meshed Andante and a Menuetto whose lingering phrases were always strengthened by a sharp focusing in the plangent heart of each perfectly placed note.

That same mercurial quality, such a persuasive characteristic of Mr Lubotsky's playing, pervaded the Beethoven E flat Op 3 Trio, no less. Here though it tended to give a flighty character to the first and last Allegro movements, with frequently short measure on some accented and tied notes. But if here the capriciousness was just too fickle, it came into its own in the sweetly intoned, light-footed second Minuet, while the tentative sighs of the first were answered by some firm, full-bodied chording.

After the interval, Beethoven's D major Op 8 Trio, while neither the greatest music nor, if truth be told, the greatest playing of the evening, was an appropriate and engaging valedictory serenade



The Russian pianist Emil Gilels has had to cancel his recital at the Festival Hall next Sunday, after being taken ill following a concert in Amsterdam. His place will be taken by Shura Cherkassky, a fellow Russian who now lives in London.

Arts agenda

At a time when the Victoria and Albert Museum is suffering increasingly from government cuts—the National Art Slide Library is currently due for closure—the museum is sitting on a large sum of unspent money. Moreover, the money is earmarked for regional museums and galleries which are desperately short of funds but are unable to claim the money.

Dr Roy Strong, the V&A's director, said the museum's regional fund was "awash with money which we cannot spend" because, under Treasury guidelines, the regional museums have to match every £ granted from the fund with a £ they raise themselves.

Out of the regional purchase grant of £1,604,000 for 1980-81, the V&A expects to have £400,000 left unspent at the end of the financial year on March 31.

The regional fund used to be exhausted well before the end of each year; in the past two years bigger government grants have increased the fund, but many of the museums around the country have been unable to benefit because their own purchase funds have been reduced, or abolished entirely, as a result of local government cuts.

Many museums have been strenuously seeking alternative funds, from local supporters or organizations such as the National Heritage Fund. The V&A thought it was "only be dint of their ingenuity that they are managing to do as much as they are."

There is no sign of the Treasury relaxing the £ for £ rule, but the Government has recognized the position, to the extent of cutting the regional purchase grant by more than a third, to £1m, for 1981-82.

■ The enthusiasm for putting the novels of D. H. Lawrence on the screen seems to be continuing: Leo McKern is off back to his homeland of Australia later this year to take part in a film of Lawrence's *Kangaroo*; he will play Ben Cooley, the fascist-style political leader who is the Kangaroo of the title. McKern, in the meantime, is still considering the possibility of doing another television series of *Rumpole*.

■ Complications over the American rights to O'Casey's play *Juno and the Paycock* have put paid to plans by Dublin's Abbey Theatre to present the work in the United States this summer.

Joe Dowling, the Abbey's artistic director, said the rights had been held by the Royal Shakespeare Company, which is currently presenting *Juno* in London; by the time it had been arranged to transfer the rights, it was too late to stage a large-scale tour.

So instead the Americans will be seeing O'Casey's *The Shadow of a Gunman*, which the Abbey will present at the Baltimore International Theatre Festival in June, and probably also in Washington, Philadelphia and Boston.

Dowling himself will be in the United States next week to start rehearsals for the American premiere of Brian Friel's *Translations*, which opens at the Manhattan Theatre Club on April 7. (*Translations* receives its British premiere at the Hampstead Theatre Club the following month.)

■ Soured relations between Britain and Russia over Afghanistan caused the cancellation last year of various visits to Britain by Russian artists, but the difficulties now seem to have been overcome and a British tour is scheduled later this spring for one of the leading Russian orchestras, the Moscow Philharmonic. Under its music director Dimitri Kitaenko, it will tour England and Wales in late April and early May, with a Royal Philharmonic Society concert at the Festival Hall on April 22.

■ When Belfast's Grand Opera House reopened last year, it meant that Northern Ireland had, for the first time in many years, a large enough venue to house the big British touring companies. In June Belfast will see the first fruits of this facility when Scottish Opera takes its production of *Eugene Onegin* and *La traviata* across the Irish Sea for a week of performances.

The cost of transporting a large company, scenery and other equipment across to Northern Ireland makes such visits much more expensive than touring elsewhere in Britain, but Mr Michael Barnes, artistic director of the opera house, believes Scottish Opera will be only the first of many companies to make the trip. Visits by two dance companies are already planned.

Scottish Opera, which will return to Belfast in 1982 with a new production of *The Pearl Fishers*, is also travelling to Europe this July, visiting the Carinthian Summer Festival, at Villach in Austria, and the Ljublana Festival in Yugoslavia, with productions of two Britten operas, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Rape of Lucretia*.

■ Mark Medoff's play *Children of a Lesser God*, which is still running on Broadway after nearly a year, will be presented in London this summer. The play, about the relationship between a young deaf woman and the speech therapist she eventually marries, will open at the newly modernized Mermaid Theatre in August.

NOT TO BE MISSED: Pierre Boulez returns to conduct the BBC Symphony Orchestra in a programme of Bartok (with Daniel Barenboim), Schoenberg and Varèse, at the Festival Hall next Wednesday.

Martin Huckerby

2 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
ROBERT DUVALL — BEST ACTOR
MICHAEL O'KEEFE — BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
THE GREAT SANTINI A
NOW SHOWING GATE THREE
CINEMA · CAMDEN TOWN

هكذا من الأصل

HONGKONG

"I am encouraged to hope that when, on February 5, the Year of the Cock dawns and the cock crows it will be proclaiming that Hongkong will find satisfaction if not feast in the year ahead." This was what the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, said at the annual New Year dinner of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce. He pointed out that Hongkong faced the second year of this decade "against a background of an unprecedented five-year period of sustained growth".

He went on to list its assets: "Our enviable geographical position, our political and fiscal stability, our budgetary strength, the excellence of our external communications and harbour, our financial services, and the continuing ability of our industrialists to expand markets and of our workforce to keep pace with the more complex work called for".

He also paid tribute to "the friendly support of the British Government and the helpful attitude of the Chinese Government". However, there is now a continuing deterioration in Hongkong-British relations after the introduction of the new British Nationality Bill, the sharp increase in fees for Hongkong students studying in Britain and restrictions on textiles.

Instructively, both Chinese communist and Kuomintang newspapers in Hongkong—approved of course by both *Peking* and Taiwan—have denounced these trends. Despite expected amendments to the Bill, Hongkong residents angrily believe that the new nationality categories will make them second-class citizens.

Happily, Hongkong relations with China have continued to improve since Sir Murray's 1979 visit to Peking, the first by a Hongkong Governor since 1949, and his recent discussions in Canton, which fixed the final clampdown on all illegal entrants from China.

The Hongkong-Guangdong border is vanishing. Canton authorities are building a "new Hongkong" type of special economic zone across the border in which Hongkong investment already amounts to SHK1,250m (£103m). Canton is investing in Hongkong, and Guangdong's exports last year to Hongkong—chiefly food, livestock and petroleum—were worth SHK10,000m—or approximately 40 per cent of China's total exports to Hongkong.

Again to quote Sir Murray: "The development of Guangdong and Hongkong is complementary. There could well be room for net expansion of Hongkong industry through the lower costs of some materials and components if they were produced in China instead of imported from overseas and if some land-intensive processes were moved north of the border. Equally to be welcomed is the expansion of investment in Hongkong by agencies of the Chinese Government".

Guangdong has just established a capitalist-style company, Guangdong Enterprises, in Hongkong to conduct on-the-spot business dealings with local and foreign investors.

Mr Zeng Ding-Shi, Vice-Governor of Guangdong, told *1,200 guests at a crowded* opening ceremony that the company has drawn closer the economic ties between Hongkong and Guangdong.

But if the border is disappearing, reinforced Chinese and Hongkong security patrols against the dwindling number of "illegals" are firmly maintained with full cooperation—on land and sea. These patrols have also united in action against smuggling of television and radio sets, watches and clothing into China by Hongkong fishing junks directed by syndicates in both Canton and Hongkong.

In pursuit of suspected smugglers, Hongkong speedboats enter Chinese waters and Chinese gunboats open fire inside Hongkong waters. The smugglers usually receive *payments in Chinese* gold and silver coins, antiques and herbal medicine.

Chinese customs officials have installed a hot-line telephone on the border to receive round-the-clock calls from Hongkong residents who are prepared to give warning of attempts to smuggle luxury items into China. Those who cooperate will be rewarded with 15 per cent of the value of any goods that are thereby seized.

During the past two months, smuggled goods worth an estimated SHK7m were seized aboard more than 20 Hongkong fishing junks.

This pragmatic and mutually rewarding relationship between Canton and Hongkong has removed one of the few *imponderables* affecting the continuing survival of Hongkong as an "independent territory".

It had once been feared that another split between rival Canton and Peking factions—now believed to be unlikely—might have led to a Canton takeover to prove that the southern faction was more truly "revolutionary" than a Peking party rival. The 1967 riots in Hongkong, it was soon learnt, were perpetrated by Canton Red Guards against the wishes and orders of Peking. That can hardly happen again.

The prospects for a safe and happy arrival into 1997, when the treaty leasing the New Territories of Hongkong expires, are now taken for granted. Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Vice-Premier, told Governor MacLehose on his 1979 visit, to "ask investors in Hongkong to put their hearts at ease".

That was not an initial assurance. When the "cultural revolution" was evaporating, a loyal party representative with a visiting fraternal delegation from Hongkong, flushed perhaps by excessive *Maotai* intake, asked his Peking banquet chairman, a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official, for a forecast of Hongkong's future.

"We have not had time to think about it", the official replied. "Meanwhile I advise you not to worry. Go back to Hongkong and continue to do what capitalists are supposed to do—make money, for us and yourself."

The late Lord Thomson of Fleet, after an animated and uninhibited hour-long exchange of views with Premier Chou-En-lai in 1972, emphasized that he was still a capitalist and gently sought Premier Chou's advice on whether he should continue to invest in Hongkong. Premier Chou, with a bland laugh, shook Lord Thomson warmly by the hand and said: "I look forward to our next meeting".

One of the new administrative developments and a first step towards real franchise in Hongkong in this Year of the Cock will be the introduction of a management committee and an advisory board in each of the 18 districts on Hongkong Island, in Kowloon and the New Territories—which are steadily being resettled as Hongkong's population increases.

The estimated population at the end of last year was 5,147,900, an increase of 130,900 or 2.6 per cent over the total at the end of 1979.

The district management committees will consist of government officers from departments most closely concerned with the provision of services in the districts. Members of the district boards, however, will include non-officials, either appointed by the Government or directly elected. Each district board will advise its corresponding management committee on matters affecting the well-being of people living or working there. Any registered voter who has been resident in Hongkong for 10 or more years can become a candidate for election.

This democratic drive for *a new community spirit* was the brain-child of Sir Murray. Most Hongkong residents, and also the Peking Politburo, would like to see Sir Murray's fourth-term office again extended when it expires in the April 1982. Now 64, he has been *Governor since* 1971 and there was general agreement with the recent tribute paid to him by Sir Anthony Royle, the visiting Vice-Chairman of the British Conservative Party, who said he had been "the best governor since the Second World War".

Sir Murray is in good health and it is presumed that, even if he personally wished to retire, he would undoubtedly remain if he was persuaded that this was popular desire and would be of advantage to Hongkong. It is and it certainly would be.

Richard Hughes



Photograph: Robin Laurance

Wooing the business visitor

It may not be delicate to mention it, but holiday-makers are not the most lucrative visitors to Hongkong. According to the statistics, business visitors not only stay longer but spend more. Travel agencies are therefore devoting much energy to attracting business conferences as well as keeping up the pressure for more tourist traffic.

With these objectives in mind, there has been a surge in the construction of top-class hotels. Projects in hand will provide more than 4,000 extra hotel rooms by the end of 1983. Last October the luxury 604-room Regent Hotel opened on reclaimed land along the Tsimshatsui waterfront, close to the main shopping centre. By the end of the year four more hotels will have opened on the site—the Holiday Inn Harbour View, the Shangri-La, the Royal Garden, and the Regal Meridien.

Next November a new Peninsula Group hotel, the Marco Polo, opens in Tsimshatsui. The underground railway (known as the mass transit railway) has already improved the lot of the daily commuter, and has also opened up new areas of Kowloon.

Most visitors to Hongkong come from South-east Asia, followed by Japan, the United States, West Europe and Australia, and they are roughly equally divided between tourists and business people.

Britons made up only 5 per cent of visitors last year, and even with a big increase since the cheaper air fares were introduced last summer, the figure remains relatively small. August was the first month that three airlines began competing on the London-Hongkong route, and there was an immediate 69 per cent increase in traffic over the same month in 1979. For the rest of the year the figures were: September, up 41 per cent; October, up 51 per cent; November, up 39 per cent; December, up 63 per cent.

Cathay Pacific, one of the new airlines on the route, reports that it is making a "substantial" profit on the traffic, although that may be an overstatement. Mr Duncan Bluck, the head in Hongkong of the Swire group, owners of Cathay, said recently: "We have moved up three flights weekly to five, and we are going daily in July. The only problem is that the fares are a bit low but they will gradually come up."

He added that it was a fact, which was accepted at one of the licensing hearings, that the average cost of producing a seat from Hongkong to London was about £220. "Our low-end seats are being sold for about £160, British Airways and British Caledonian have got themselves in terrible strife by having stand-by fares which they cannot support, such as the £99 fare.

"Although £220 is the cost, if you have enough top-end business you can subsidize the others." He expected that during 1981 the bottom-end fares would have to go up to at least £200.

The introduction of short-tours to China over the past few years is proving a big attraction for visitors to Hongkong. For the equivalent of about £100 you can go to Canton by hovercraft (it takes about four hours) and spend two nights and three days getting a swift taste of life in China. The accommodation is spartan, but the Chinese are making strenuous efforts to build hotels of a high standard.

Overall, Hongkong is maintaining a steady growth in the number of visitors. The increase in 1980 was about 4 per cent over the previous year.

There was a drop last year, however, in the number of Japanese visitors, although the position began to improve around September. The reduction partly reflected the economic conditions in Japan, but the colony also has a bad reputation among many Japanese for standards of service as well as for petty crime.

The Taiwanese market showed a drastic drop because of a partial travel ban which prevented trippers from making single destination trips to Hongkong.

An analysis of spending by visitors in the first nine months of 1980, based on a survey of people departing, showed increases in expenditure, compared with 1979, among those who came from the United States, Australia, and Western Europe, the Australians being the biggest spenders. Japanese visitors, however, spent less.

The same analysis revealed that the shops, with their abundance of cheap clothing and electrical goods, were still the main attraction for visitors. All in all, the Hongkong Tourist Association sees 1981 as a year of modest growth, as was last year.

Christopher Thomas

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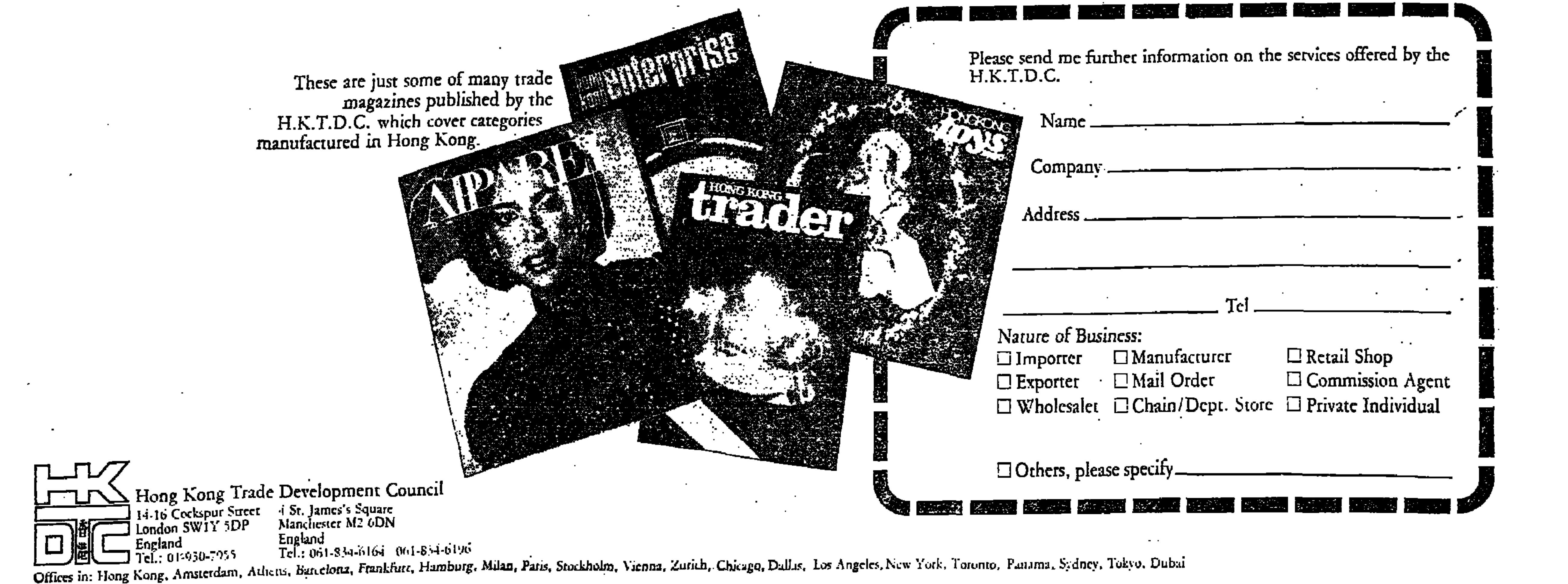
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Economy

Happy accidents lessen trade deficit

Hongkong may be a borrowed place living on borrowed time, as one commentator has aptly described it, but it also has a way of being in the right place at the right time. Felicitous accidents of position and timing have accounted for much of the colony's economic success in the past, and last year was no exception.

Just when the gathering clouds of recession and protectionism in Hongkong's most important export markets—for clothing and textiles in particular—were beginning to shorten order books and to increase unemployment, the traditional entrepôt trade with China revived strongly. This helped to keep the visible trade deficit within manageable, although still worrying, proportions.

Equally fortuitous events helped Hongkong the previous year. An influx of refugees from China and from Vietnam put a heavy burden on housing and other social services then but it also provided a pool of new labour to keep wage rates at internationally competitive levels.

It is hard to see, however, just what factor may intervene this year to bale Hongkong's economy out of more serious trouble, including rapidly rising, double-digit inflation and possibly an even wider trade deficit.

Indeed, in his annual budget on February 25 Sir Philip Haddon-Cave admitted that the growth rate of Hongkong's total exports will fall to 12 per cent in 1981 compared with 12.7 per cent last year, with falls in both exports and reexports. He also forecast a drop in imports but the negative aspects of this is that it implies some slowdown in business activity which could damage even the reduced prospects of the export sector.

Sir Philip predicted a fall in Hongkong's gross domestic product increase this year, to 8 per cent compared with 9 per cent last year, but this at least is expected to slow the rate of consumer price inflation down from 15.5 per cent last year to about 12 per cent this year. Proposed moves to change the regulatory framework affecting banks and finance companies should also help to bring the runaway money supply back under some sort of control.

As usual, Sir Philip's forecast for the size of the Government's budget surplus was way off track. The estimated surplus for 1981-82 is now put at $HK9,320m against the figure of $HK2,900m originally budgeted for. Once again soaring revenues from public sales of land (all of which the Government owns in Hongkong) have produced a large surplus.

This looks good in the short term but local business leaders are becoming increasingly critical of the Government's refusal to make cheap land available for industrial development. With revenues "flushing", the Financial Secretary was able to reduce corporation tax by half a point to 16.5 per cent and to give concessions on the level of income at which Hongkong's standard rate of 15 per cent personal income tax becomes payable.

Trams are still an important part of transport in Hongkong.

The trade deficit rose by $HK3,500m last year to $HK13,400m as imports rose somewhat faster than overall exports and much faster than domestic exports. The saving factor was reexports (mainly goods and materials imported from China and reexported), which rose 50 per cent in value.

These reexports consist mainly of raw materials and semi-manufactures such as yarns, fabrics and clothes, as well as pearls and other precious stones and electrical machinery. How strong they will continue in 1981 depends on whether China's major trading partners retaliate in any way against that country's slowdown on capital goods imports. Hongkong's trade with its neighbouring Portuguese colony of Macau has also been boosted on the back of the revived China trade, but here again further growth is problematical.

Meanwhile the job creation potential of the entrepôt trade is limited and despite the extra work needed in processing reexports the number of people employed in manufacturing is actually falling now. This reflects a decline in orders for textiles, plastics, electrical goods and metals in Hongkong's important markets in the United States and Europe.

This shrinkage began in the second half of last year and has led to increasing numbers of lay-offs and short-time working in manufacture, as well as to reduced real wages at current inflation levels. It has also led some weavers to turn their factories over for property development where profits are much higher and faster.

Hongkong's internationally recognized financial services remain generally buoyant but again their job creation impact is limited. The financial sector now employs about 126,000 people against nearly 900,000 in the manufacturing sector and 447,000 in import/export businesses, shops, hotels and restaurants.

Unemployment, at 4.3 per cent (last September), is not yet a serious social problem (for the Government at least although with no unemployment benefits available it is hard enough for those unfortunate enough to be out of work) but it may become more so. The Government admits that rising wages and expectations are making the younger generations at least less ready to accept Hongkong's traditional philosophy of flexibility on employment and wages during recession.

Increasingly, voices within the Chinese community—the overwhelming majority of Hongkong's (probably more than six million) population—call for a wider industrial base and policies to encourage foreign investment. But the ruling British minority clings tenaciously to its policy of not telling private enterprise what to do and of non-discrimination between foreign and domestic investors when it comes to incentives.

Inflation running at 15.6 per cent in the year to last November—one of the highest increases in South-east Asia—is making life even harder for the unemployed and those on short time. A good deal of this inflation is imported, by the rising cost of fuel and raw material imports. Food prices too are rising rapidly. But a huge increase in Hongkong's money supply and credit creation last year is certainly another factor.

There is a good deal of debate going on about whether the increase in money and credit is really as bad as it looks. The M3 money supply leapt by 34 per cent in the year to last November and total credit to the economy (bank and quasi-bank lending) by a startling 58 per cent. The official argument is that much of this credit goes off shore and has little or no impact on the domestic economy, but no one knows for sure how much as official statistics to determine the true trend are only now under preparation.

It does not take even the casual visitor more than a glance at Hongkong's concrete landscape and its myriad office and apartment blocks to compute where a good deal of the money supply is going, however. It is going into real estate, which continues to command ever higher prices and rents. If demand for office space and luxury flats for expatriate staff were to ease off, in line with lowered expectations for trade with China, a lot of banks, and deposit-taking (finance) companies in particular, could get their fingers badly burnt, despite the fairly low financial gearing of Hongkong's property sector.

Again though, chance (rather than conscious planning) being what it is in Hongkong, it looks as though China's offshore oil programme will attract enough oil men to the British colony to prop up the property sector, to some extent at least.

An active property and stock market always go hand in hand in Hongkong and the Hang Seng index is demonstrating that real estate stockmarket counters can climb as high as the towering blocks sprouting up everywhere. Again, the market and many of the deposit taking companies financing margin speculation would be highly vulnerable if the property market fell badly.

One consolation for middle-income Chinese groups and for those foreigners who do not enjoy the luxury of company flats—the poorer Chinese live in government housing or just shacks, junks and sampans—has been the official control over residental rents introduced (reluctantly) last year. This has kept the rise in the housing component of the consumer price index well below that in food and services.

The opening of the Mass Transit Railway's first phase between Kowloon and Hongkong island has also made life easier for millions of commuters, although the cross-harbour fare, at four times the cost of a ferry ride, has probably kept underground trains emptier than they might otherwise have been. Traffic on the MTR also appears to be below projections.

Plans to open a new Island Line (financing it largely from assumed development profits on pre-sold land around the MTR terminals) will cost about $HK7,000m between now and 1986 (meaning that the MTR will have cost about $HK20,000m by then) and should ease surface congestion and improve the railways' payload. But it will almost certainly push the money supply spiral even higher, too, and cause the now cooling public construction sector to overheat again. Plans for a new airport and for a road bridge linking Hongkong with Lantao island may well have to wait in view of the surprise decision to extend the MTR so soon.

How fast Hongkong can improve its standard of living depends (now that the refugee influx has mercifully slowed) on how quickly world trade and traditional industries' order books pick up, as there is slim chance of the Government going for any large-scale diversification of the economy.

Services fortunately remain fairly buoyant—contributing $HK22,336m to the overall balance of payments in 1980. Tourism is one of the most crucial services and fall-off in Japanese arrivals last year was more than compensated for by an increase in numbers from the United States, Australia and Europe (particularly Britain). But how long tourists will continue rushing to China (by way of Hongkong), given the high cost of such journeys, and how long cheap air fares from London can survive, remains to be seen.

Anthony Rowley
business editor,
Far Eastern Economic Review

Finance

Stockmarket boom gives false picture

The continuous rise of Hongkong's stockmarket last year hardly makes it a good barometer of the economy. Its readings were distorted by a ridge of (very localized) high pressure in the corporate sector. While the economy was slipping farther into recession, the trade gap widening and inflation rising, the Hang Seng stockmarket index more than doubled to over 1,600, where it approached its record high level of 1973.

This remarkable performance, which has continued into this year, has taken place against a backdrop of seething speculation in the market about corporate takeovers and realignments—some rumoured, some realized. Most notable among these was the short and bloody (for certain shareholders) mid-year battle for control of the land-rich Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf Company, in which Sir Yue-Kong Pao, the shipping magnate, thwarted Hongkong Land's bid for control of the company and ended up with 49 per cent himself.

There were a dozen big takeover deals in Hongkong last year involving cash and scrip issues to a total value of about $HK1,400m.

That the partial bid for Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf left some shareholders without a look-in elicited little more than a modest rebuke from Hongkong's Committee on Takeovers and Mergers. The incident re-emphasized how powerful are some of the business personalities (arguably more so the Chinese than the English now) in Hongkong's economy and that the rules are flexible when their interests are at stake.

Sir Yue-Kong having got control of Hongkong-Kowloon Wharf (provoking speculation that he will increasingly shift his assets from shipping into real estate), even more remarkable things followed. In November the two biggest expatriate-run *hongs* (trading houses), Jardine Matheson and Hongkong Land closed ranks against the Chinese threat (specifically from property tycoon Mr Li Ka Shing's Cheung Kong Holdings) by strengthening their cross shareholdings. Jardine Matheson ended up with 38 per cent of Hongkong Land and (more important from the point of view of a mutual defensive strategy, as Jardine had become the more attractive takeover counter as a cheap way into Land) Hongkong Land with 30 per cent of Jardine Matheson.

The battle lines between Chinese and British business interests had thus been firmly drawn. The writing was on the wall a year previously when the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank sold out its 22 per cent stake in the (also land-rich) Hutchison Whampoa company to Mr Li Ka Shing, after he and Sir Yue-Kong Pao (who had earlier been interested in Hutchison himself) apparently decided who should go for what (British) target. The bank has manoeuvred cleverly in all this, doing deals with the Chinese in Hongkong while continuing to build up a bigger base outside the colony—in the United States by acquiring Marine Midland Bank and in the United Kingdom through the takeover of the merchant bank Anthony Gibbs last year.

In Britain, or in most other places having a takeover code, both of last year's big control-shifting deals would have initiated a full takeover under the rules. But in Hongkong there was a—probably well grounded—suspicion that the rules (at present requiring a full bid only after 50 per cent of a company is acquired) would not be tightened until the most powerful business tycoons had completed their strategic realignments.

Sure enough, at the beginning of this year, the Government let it be known that it is now intending to introduce a compromise, 35 per cent rule at which full takeover bids are initiated. Now that the swiftest horses have bolted, there is little reason why the stable door should not be shut.

Although last year's takeovers gave the local stockmarket more of a casino image than ever, the market did at least reassert its role as a source of capital. A score of rights issues during the year by expatriate hongs and local Chinese companies resulted in the raising of just under $HK6m, which the market was able to take in easily.

To give it its due, the Government does look as though it is trying to do something to introduce a few more meaningful rules into the jungle of corporate dealings. Earlier this year it called in a British company law expert, Mr Barry Rider, a fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, to look not only at company law as such but at the commercial crimes division of the police and the Attorney General's office as well.

A revision of the colony's company law—the first major one for 50 years—was foreshadowed by a Bill introduced last August into the official Legislative Council, though it has yet to be enacted. The Bill seeks to abolish the much used and abused practice of allowing companies to have corporate bodies as their directors, a device used by many companies to mask their true ownership. But it dodges the equally important issue of making disclosure of shareholdings and dealings compulsory. Overall, the Bill plays with reform only on the sidelines.

Reform comes slowly in Hongkong—almost inevitably after the event or after the mishap—but it is proceeding. In December the Government enacted the Money Lenders Ordinance to restrict the activities of, usually Chinese, loan sharks. The legislation makes anyone charging annual interest of more than 60 per cent on a loan liable to a heavy fine or up to two years in jail. It also requires money lenders to be registered and to keep records of all transactions.

Since then, the local police claim to have broken the activities of a number of loan-shark syndicates which have been charging unlawfully high rates and detaining borrowers' savings account books. The activities of these ubiquitous (often Triad-run) syndicates range from financing gambling to sponsoring stockmarket speculation.

In the banking sector there was little evidence last year of a slowdown in the economy, though mainly because a large part of the huge increase in credit creation was attributable more to the booming property sector and to offshore funding than to domestic manufacture. Bank profits were somewhat attenuated compared with 1979. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for instance saw net profits rise 19 per cent in the first half of 1980 against 37 per cent in the corresponding period of 1979. But with local "best lending" (prime) rate at record levels of up to 17 per cent that was not surprising.

The other *hongs* all reported respectable profit rises with the exception of Swire Pacific which saw its overall profits wiped out by (not untypical for the airline industry) losses at part-owned Cathay Pacific.

Last year saw a number of innovations in the banking sector. Certificates of Deposit denominated in United States dollars were introduced as a means of boosting the local money market and putting Hongkong in a better position in relation to Singapore as a funding centre for the Asiadollar market. But unlike their highly successful counterparts denominated in Hongkong dollars, the United States dollar instruments met with only modest success. This suggests that Hongkong is more a taker than a provider of offshore funds and that (withholding) tax ambiguities can still bedevil funding activities in the colony.

Whether the launch early this year of United States dollar floating rate notes will be any more successful remains to be seen. Another damp squib so far has been the Hongkong gold futures market, opened in March last year, despite gold's strong performance about that time. Most local demand seems to be for the physical commodity rather than the futures and that is where the long-established Chinese exchange excels. Undaunted, however, Hongkong is still planning to open a currency futures market to add to gold and the still sluggish futures markets in cotton and soya beans.

a Special Correspondent

Printing

Hurtling out of space came the 'Herald Tribune'

Asian journalists had to contend with an invader from Europe when the *International Herald Tribune* came hurtling out of space in September and staked its claim to a place in the world's major growth area.

The *Tribune* which was *already selling 2,000 copies* in Asia despite arriving at least two days late, is aiming to increase circulation tenfold, although its break-even point is somewhere about *16,000 copies. It is giving* itself three years to make it with its Asian edition sent by satellite from Paris and printed in Hongkong.

While it is still too early *to forecast whether it will* meet its *target*—although the dismissal of the editor in Paris and a drastic reorganization of the publishing department in Hongkong are hardly happy omens—the *paper will face stiff competi*tion.

Its main drawbacks are its price, which is the equivalent of 22p to 33p depending on the country, and its European bias. It will have to make a conscious effort to do well editorially in a continent which feels by and large neglected in the editorial pages of European newspapers.

Its direct competitor is the *Asian Wall Street Journal*, whose leaning towards business rather than general news coverage is an asset in selling to American and European businessmen.

The *Journal* was sufficiently worried to move its printing times forward. It used *to print at 11 am but* had to cope with the publication of the *Tribune* four hours earlier.

The *Tribune* will have to be patient in waiting to show *a profit on its Asian run if* the *Journal*'s experience is anything to go by. The Asian *Journal* lost £500,000 a year for three years and only in recent months has moved *marginally into the black.*

Another problem is distribution throughout Asia. Hongkong is an ideal publishing centre because it has good communications and *financial services and is rea*sonably centrally located among countries with the best sales potential. Publishers suffer little government interference and pay low taxes.

Unfortunately, Asian regional newspapers and magazines suffer from overt and hidden censorship in various countries.

If a publication is lucky, censors may be satisfied with putting printer's ink in large smears down an offending article. Rather more frustrating is when issues lie around at airports, or in the Home Affairs Ministry office, for hours or days without explanation.

An encouraging thought for the *Tribune*, however is that other publishers are *clearly keen to be in Asia.* Dow Jones has an interest in the main newspaper in Hongkong, the *South China Morning Post*, and in the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, the highest selling Asian political and economic magazine, as well as pushing in with its *Asian Wall Street Journal*.

Reader's Digest has announced its faith in the review's rival, *Asiaweek*, by buying 80 per cent of this newer publication.

Several business magazines are published in Hongkong as well as many specialist publications such as *Petroleum News* and *Computer Asia*. They are matched by a range of women's magazines which sell profitably despite printing every article twice, once in English and once in Chinese, and despite a remarkably trivial content.

Local newspapers abound. There are four English-language dailies although fewer than 100,000 people living in Hongkong speak English as their native language. Two *depend on sales to highly* educated Chinese; the other two are tabloids aiming for the Chinese eager to improve their English.

There are nearly 100 Chinese language newspapers, but most make little attempt to cover the news. They rely on such features as an advice column, a trouble-shooter service, racing tips, specialized classified advertising and even outright pornography.

With reporters' salaries as low as £100 or less a month, journalists in the Chinese press may accept bribes to write stories or keep them out of the paper. This can be especially lucrative where show business personalities are concerned. Because of a *loophole in the law, this* bribery is not illegal as long as the editor knows, and he is likely to condone the receiving of gifts if that helps to keep wages down.

Until recently Hongkong has been a growth area for publication of books. Among the British publishers with operations or affiliates in Hongkong are *Heinemann, Collins, Oxford* University Press, Hamlyn and Longman. Apart from Chinese books, the main activity is educational books for Chinese children learning English.

Bolstering the *printing* industry have been substantial orders from Britain and Australia, whose publishers have found it cheaper to print in Hongkong and ship the books back.

If anything, Hongkong printers became too successful. The glut of printing orders swamped the printers and pushed up wages, thus eroding the twin advantages of speed and low costs that Hongkong enjoyed. The influx of immigrants from China and Indo-China brought farmers, labourers and businessmen, but certainly not printers, to bolster this workforce in the industry.

The shortage of skilled labour in the printing industry has been compounded by insufficient training facilities.

The worldwide recession brought a cut in overseas orders in the second half of last year, particularly from Britain and Australia. This affected mainly small and medium-scale printing companies.

Printers say publishers in Britain and Australia, worried about dwindling market demand, are holding up orders or placing only trial orders to test their markets. Australia used to take more than 30 per cent of Hongkong's exports of books and pamphlets, but the figure has dropped to 23 per cent.

Hongkong faces protectionism in printing as it does in other industries. Australian printers now enjoy a government subsidy equivalent to a third of the value of the printing order; *Canada imposes import* duties and American books printed overseas cannot be sold in the United States.

Despite the additional burden of increasing raw material costs Hongkong printers remain generally optimistic. They are depending on a high level of technical skills, high efficiency, ease of communications and still *competitive costs to* tide them over.

The high standards in the supporting industries, including typesetting, colour separation and camera work, help *Hongkong to maintain* its lead over Asian competitors such as Singapore and South Korea.

A Special Correspondent

Film industry

Spread of colour TV has not signalled a decline

In the New Territories of Hongkong every last hut and shack is equipped with its own colour television set. In the West, this would surely signal the decline, if not the demise, of local cinema. But Hongkong has one of the most thriving popular film *industries in the world*, together with India and Japan.

Although it is such a small place Hongkong, with its population of between five and six million, rapidly on the increase, compares favourably with many of the smaller language areas of Europe—Norway, Holland, Finland and Albania, for instance—which are trying to *maintain their own independent* cinema production. And Hongkong films can go straight to audiences in Taiwan, Singapore, and indeed all over South-east Asia, not to mention the large Chinese communities abroad—*in the United States* and Britain particularly.

If the enormous potential audiences in mainland China *are ever made accessible to* them (it has not really happened yet, but with the constant blurring of once hard-and-fast distinctions, it is always a possibility) the commercial potentialities are limitless. Especially since, although these days almost all films from Hongkong are shot in Cantonese, there exist alternative versions in *Mandarin for many of them*, and all are subtitled so as to be accessible to any literate person, whichever of the Chinese family of languages he speaks.

Until about 10 years ago, Hongkong films were strictly for Chinese consumption, since they did not have any of the obvious cultural advantages presented by the best of Japanese and Indian cinema. Nor any of the cultural pretensions: this was unashamedly popular cinema directed straight at the heart of its reliable mass audiences.

That situation did not change, but the international vogue of the kung fu movie, fuelled by the presence of the first Chinese international superstar, Bruce Lee, demonstrated that Hongkong films' unaffected values as thoroughly professional popular entertainment were effective far beyond the Chinese community.

Though kung fu has faded a little in popularity—to be replaced it seems with the less imaginative urban violence of the new Hollywood vigilante cycle—a number of Hongkong-made kung fu movies still find extensive international release, providing a useful open door *into world markets which* perhaps Hongkong filmmakers will be able to find other ways of exploiting.

However, that remains just the gilt on the gingerbread. *Production of feature* films has been steadily rising in Hongkong during the past few years. In 1978[?], 91[?] features were made; in 1979, 105[?]; and though figures for 1980[?] are not yet available, the indications are that there has been a further increase.

Most of these films fall into one of four clear categories: martial arts, ghost stories, musical romances and broad comedies, usually with the accent on youth. The martial arts *films* often contain elements verging on the supernatural, but as a rule their limits are strictly defined. The ghost stories, always a staple of Chinese cinema, seem to get gorier every year, with the talents of the studios' make-up and special effects departments being pushed to the limit in the simulation of gruesome deaths, spectacular enchantments and (a particular favourite) hideous scarring and decomposing flesh.

The paler charms of the traditional romance with songs (often based on some episode from a classic Chinese novels like *The Story of the Stone)* seem to have been falling rather from favour, though there are always some people ready for a good cry. The bouncy youth-oriented farces, often featuring assorted Chinese Shirley Temples and Freddie Bartholomews, or Judy Garlands and Mickey Rooneys, in careful graded sizes, seem able to absorb everything from lachrymose musical interlude to all-out comedy any *aficionado* of *Carry On or Cheech and Chong* would instantly recognize.

The biggest producer of these films in Hongkong is still Sir Run Run Shaw, working from a studio with backlots and standing sets such as has hardly been seen in Hollywood for 20 years; though even in Hongkong the suburban sprawl threatens to engulf it. Compared with the Shaw enterprise *other studios—there* are nearly 40 of them, mostly on the mainland—tend to have rather the air of Poverty Row, with their few all-purpose sets huddled together *in the middle of already* built-up residential or industrial districts.

Of late, the rigid studio system of production has been breaking down a little; few film-producing companies can now contrive to keep all their facilities fully occupied round the year with their own product, and so more and more often they hire out to independents.

This seems to be creating an opening for the long-desired new wave of Hongkong cinema. There has been a vocal minority of Hongkong filmgoers who are not satisfied with the fare regularly offered by local film-makers, and feel that the time is ripe for something a little more adventurous. An increasing number of young Hongkong Chinese, also, have been studying at film schools in Britain and America, and coming back *with bright new ideas which* they want to put into effect.

Last year's Hongkong international film festival (another effective impetus for change in Hongkong cinema) *included six first feature* films completed that year. Only one, *The Butterfly Murders*, was a big-budget martial arts film (handled with freedom and independence); three were independent productions by new companies, and the other two were financed by their own writer-directors.

Five of the six directors had studied abroad, and the sixth had a background in experimental cinema; five had worked extensively in television, and the sixth was already experienced in documentaries. These films, *which were merely a selec*tion from a far larger number of independent and first features produced, strongly suggest that new blood is likely to put new life into the old industry, before it becomes too mummified. They also suggest that the industry as it stands is so effective and confident that it can absorb new talent and new ideas, and can afford to indulge them. The prospects for the 1980s seem to be good not only for quantity of production but also for quality.

John Russell Taylor

Art market

Not the place to buy pots

For the casual visitor with an interest in Chinese ceramics, Hongkong is definitely not the place to buy pots. Its shops abound with clever modern fakes, and even respectable dealers feel little compunction in passing them on to the unwary as genuine.

If you are serious in your intentions, you must go with carefully prepared introductions to the few dealers who handle genuine wares, and with enough knowledge to convince them that you are a desirable client. They cannot be found without guidance—their shops may appear to be something quite else, one a junk shop, one a jeweller.

Alternatively, you can time your visit to Hongkong to coincide with the series of sales that Sotheby's hold there every spring and autumn. Sotheby's have been holding sales in Hongkong since 1973 and have achieved a remarkable transformation of the market. The sales have been organized under the control of a *Sotheby director, Mr Julian* Thomson, a Cambridge mathematician turned sinologue; he is among the most respected connoisseurs of Chinese art to be found today in either East or West.

The first impact of Sotheby's sales in Hongkong was to bring the market in genuine, important ceramics out into the open. Their policy is not generally to take goods from the West to sell there, but to auction goods that come in for sale locally—genuine, carefully vetted goods. The accent is thus predominantly on goods that appeal to Chinese taste.

Most prized by Chinese collectors are the Imperial *Ming and Qing wares; that* is, wares made in the imperial kilns between the fifteenth and eighteenth *centuries, either for use in* the emperor's palaces, or as gifts for devoted friends and attendants. Characteristic are the paper-thin porcelain cups and dishes decorated in colours with flowers and fruit, unregimented by symmetry, but beautifully and carefully placed in relation to the form of the piece to be decorated. Often small, they are the epitome of refinement.

As the years have gone by, the taste of Chinese collectors appears to have moved backwards. Fourteenth and fifteenth century Ming blue and white wares were first sought after with enthusiasm about five years ago.

More recently, and this was particularly underlined by the sale of the great Chow collection last autumn, collectors have moved back to the Song dynasty and have begun to show an interest in Tang.

Edward T. Chow was born in Jiangsu province in 1910 and began his career as a dealer in Shanghai. He established links with the West at an early age, and in 1949, after a short stay in New York, settled in Hongkong. He retired from dealing in 1968 and settled in Geneva until his death in 1980. He began his personal collection at about the age of 20, keeping for himself pieces whose rarity, beauty and perfect condition met *his exacting standards.*

The sales of the Chow collection were divided between Hongkong and London; another is due to take place in Hongkong this spring. Sotheby's worked in collaboration with Chow's friend of many years, the Paris dealer M Michel Beurdeley. A fifteenth century Chenghua *doucai* chicken cup, a tiny piece of exquisite decoration and of extreme rarity, was sold for $HK4.8m (£401,133). Sotheby's had been predicting a price of about £100,000.

Even more surprising, in a sense, was the result of the London sale which contained the pieces judged by Sotheby's to be of more Western taste. The Hongkong contingent arrived in *London in force, and carried* away most of the early Ming and Song ceramics. A flower-shaped brushwasher of the Song dynasty realized £330,000; it was a recent addition to the collection, having been sold by Sotheby's in November, 1972, for a mere £14,000. There was even interest in the archaic bronzes—a new field for Hongkong buyers.

Though Hongkong is small it has many rich businessmen, both Chinese and expatriate, and the rich like jewels. Sotheby's did not take long to realize that there was an excellent local market in jewelry to be tapped. It began to hold jewel auctions in Hongkong in 1975, and these have become a regular feature of its auctions.

Things have not always gone well with these sales. On occasion there have been no buyers for important diamond pieces or other standard coloured stones. In one area, however, there has never been any slackening of demand: fine jade jewelry is always hotly competed for. Jade, especially if a fine translucent emerald green colour, is as much prized by the Chinese as are diamonds in the West.

A recent development has been auctions devoted to twentieth-century Chinese painting. Most of the artists now live in Shanghai, Hongkong or Taiwan but worked *in all parts of China in pre*-revolutionary days.

Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Easier times for garrison

continued from facing page

times that number were thought to have safely escaped to Kowloon. Most came overland but many also by sea, either by boat or by swimming.

The effect of this on the tiny garrison was unpopular. The four battalions which had been taking it in turns to guard the border, for four to six weeks at a time, found themselves working as hard as their colleagues in Northern Ireland, although without the danger. Wives of the British battalion, whose married quarters are scattered round the colony, complained of family separation on an unprecedented scale. An additional battalion had to be sent from Britain, with specialist support, to help to push back the tide.

There were also operational disadvantages. Troops were spending so much time catching immigrants that they had no time to train for their other internal security tasks, or for the month-long jungle warfare *exercises which* each battalion undergoes every year in Brunei or Fiji.

The problem has eased for several reasons, and is likely to become still more *manageable in future.* One reason is that a new high fence has been built on the border. Another is that the Chinese authorities are co-operating more closely than *before and are* preventing many would-be immigrants from reaching the frontier.

The most important reason however was the recent ending of the "touch base" rule, under which those who escaped the garrison's net were allowed to stay in the colony. The need to have an official identification card to find work has meant that illegal entry is no longer worth the effort and the risk. Nearly 500 a day were caught in the last week before the "touch base" era ended, but the number dropped to 28 or so overnight.

The burden on the garrison should grow lighter as a result of the latest DCA which was signed last October. The need to revise the agreement arose from the effect of rising costs. The new one, while not altering the proportion of costs paid by Britain and the Hongkong Government, has in effect meant that Hongkong will pay more through an improvement in the accounting system.

But Britain in turn agreed to return the *second* battalion, which had earlier been withdrawn, on a permanent basis. Illegal immigration was not *directly* the underlying reason, according to official sources. The growth in population had indicated the need for more troops in case internal security was seriously threatened.

The extra battalion will not be formed until next year. Accommodation has to be found before it can arrive. Initially it will be a fourth Gurkha battalion, but the long-term intention is to draft a British battalion to *the colony, partly to increase* the opportunity for British soldiers to serve there, and partly to allow Gurkhas a chance to serve somewhere else.

The 1,000-strong Hongkong Military Service Corps, comprising locally enlisted Hongkong recruits who serve as drivers, mechanics or interpreters, is also to be expanded, probably by 50 per cent. It is hoped that this will enable the corps to take on more active duties.

Sources point out that on numbers alone one could make out a case for sending two extra battalions to the colony, not one, but the planned expansion in the size and scope of the service corps should obviate this need. It is hoped that by the end of next year troops should have more time in which to practise their internal security skills, familiarizing themselves with the teeming enclaves of Kowloon, or learning how to land from helicopters on the *tops of* Hongkong's tower blocks in the hunt for potential terrorists.

They should also have more time in which to enjoy life in the colony. Single and married British servicemen are still waiting for the travel posters to become true.

Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

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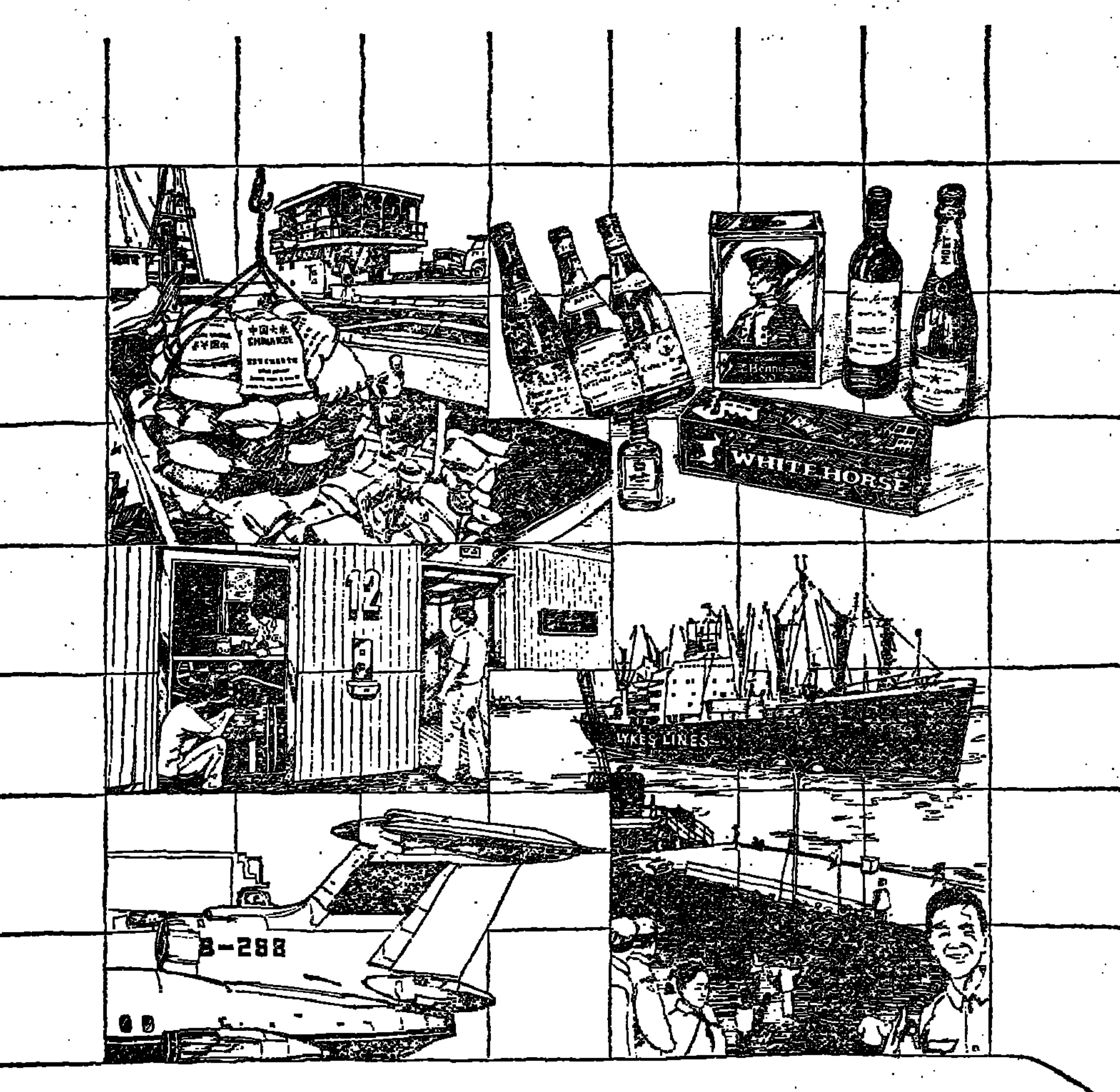
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Property

Second most expensive real estate in the world

Commercial and residential property prices in Hongkong have tripled since 1977 and prime sites in the Central business districts are now second only to the City of London as the most expensive real estate in the world.

Late in 1980 a site on the edge of the Central area suitable for office development was auctioned by the Hongkong Government for the record price of $HK26,245 (£2,125) a square foot. (All land in the colony is owned or leased by the Government, which grants leases to purchasers.) Land costs of this magnitude, coupled with a general maximum plot ratio of 18 :1, have pushed up the purchase price of top-class office accommodation over $HK5,000 a square foot. Residential accommodation has experienced a similar growth rate, and apartments of more than 1,500 sq ft in better residential areas sell for more than $HK2m.

At the root of this large increase in accommodation costs has been an unprecedented influx of foreign companies, particularly banks, keen to establish a bridgehead in Hongkong. For commercial companies the attraction has been the China trade, which was widely expected to grow rapidly after the normalization of relations between the United States and China. Banks and financial institutions have arrived in numbers in the colony as its bond, loan and money markets have grown under the Government's laisser faire economic policies.

Since May 1978 a further 41 foreign banks have opened Hongkong branches, bringing the total to 115, despite a government moratorium on new licences imposed in August 1979. Even more financial institutions have established deposit-taking companies to tap the vast sums flowing into the colony from neighbouring South-east Asian countries. According to statistics from the Commissioner for Banking there are 279 such companies operating at present.

All these institutions want office space in the highly regarded Central district and their expatriate staff want houses or apartments on the Peak. Until recently almost all such accommodation was rented, but as office rents increased from $HK10 to $HK30 a square foot a month and those of high quality residences trebled or quadrupled to $HK50,000 a month or more an increasing number of institutions decided to buy their accommodation. This has led to a sharp reduction in yields, which now average 7 per cent compared with 10 per cent four years ago.

The biggest recent purchase was by the Bank of America, which bought 25 floors of Gammon House (now renamed Bank of America Tower) for approaching $HK1,000m. The history of Gammon House illustrates the wheeling and dealing which is a major feature of Hongkong's property market.

The building was constructed and owned until 1978 by Jardine Matheson. It was then sold to Jardine's associate, Hongkong Land, the colony's largest property company, for $HK715m. In 1979 Hongkong Land sold the building to the Carrian Group, a mysterious company representing undisclosed South-east Asian interests. In 1980 this company sold Gammon House to another company owned by anonymous foreign shareholders, Bylamson, for $HK1,680m, and later in 1980 Bylamson sold the majority of the 40-storey building to Bank of America.

Not only the top of the market attracts such rapid movements. Property speculation rivals the stock markets and horse racing as the favourite local form of gambling. Small investors have been able to participate directly in the property boom because of the unusual method by which developments are financed in the colony. Until recently it was possible for a developer to construct a building while providing less than 10 per cent of the cost from his own funds. Many of today's big local property companies, such as Mr Li Ka Shing's Cheung Kong Holdings and Sun Hung Kai Properties, financed their growth by using government and public funds.

Land was the most expensive item, frequently accounting for 70 per cent of the total cost, but the Government accepted deferred payments spanning several years at attractive interest rates. A developer who owned land needed only a set of architect's plans before he could pre-sell units in the building to end-users and speculators. They paid a deposit and then made progress payments as the development neared completion, financing the cost of construction.

This method was obviously attractive to developers, but it also captured the Hongkong public's imagination, and in 1980 queues camped overnight outside property company offices to secure prime lots in forthcoming developments.

A lively secondary market in partly paid contracts also developed and opportunists were even selling their places in the queues of people waiting to place their deposits. But this trend, and the soaring property prices it produced, suffered a big setback in mid-1980 when the Government introduced residential rent controls, giving tenants security of tenure and limiting increases to 21 per cent every two years. It also hinted that controls on commercial rents and pre-selling developments were being considered.

This had a profound effect on local property investors, who had come to take the Government's laisser faire attitude for granted. The market in small flats, the most popular form of pre-sold development, dropped by 20 per cent in a few months and many speculators were left with unsalable contracts. The move also created a two-tier rental market as landlords increased rents being asked for new residential property by as much as 100 per cent to avoid being left behind by subsequent increases. This has led to newcomers in sought-after locations paying two or three times more rent than their established neighbours.

The only sector of Hongkong's property market which has not experienced big price increases is industrial accommodation. Stagnation in the colony's manufacturing activity has left rents below $HK5 a square foot a month, prompting owners of factories in suitable locations to convert their buildings to offices. In more remote areas of the New Territories the Government is trying to attract new industries by offering sites on industrial estates at attractive rents, but apart from a Carlsberg brewery it has had little success.

Many businesses have been discouraged by the difficulty of attracting skilled workers to such locations, and Hongkong is now falling behind Singapore in its attempts to foster high technology manufacturing, despite relatively low accommodation costs.

Local estate agents give a warning that the upward movement of rents and capital values will not continue at its present pace, and several forecast that 1981 will see stagnation in all but prime office properties. Their reasoning is that supply, which has lagged behind in the past two years, is now rapidly overtaking demand.

Paul Wilson

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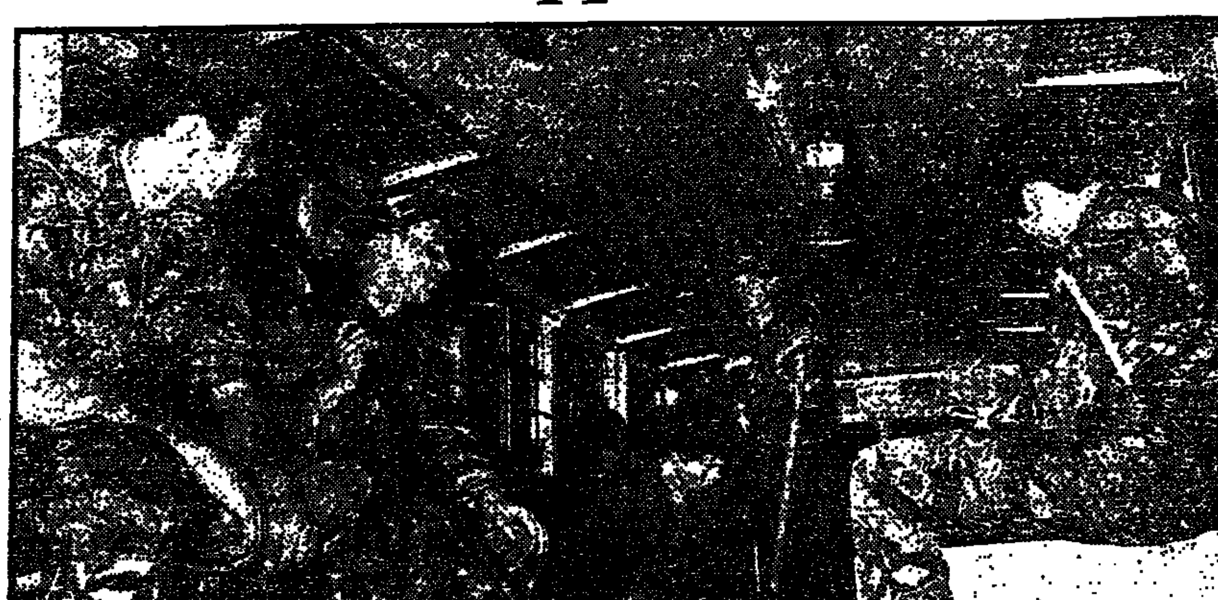


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Immigration

Illegal entries have effectively been stopped



British soldiers question an illegal immigrant. *Photograph: Andrew Ward*

Hongkong's population problem will be formally assessed when the 1981 census, which begins in mid-March, is completed. Until the planners in government have a more accurate picture of the population, the provision of housing, medical and welfare services and the setting up of other social projects can be little more than the drawing of blueprints in a dimly-lit room.

The problem of estimating the size of the population has always been aggravated by illegal immigration from China. Since October 23, 1980, however, this influx has effectively been stopped.

On that day the British administration abandoned its liberal, but socially disastrous, policy of allowing all mainland Chinese who entered the colony illegally, but who managed to evade capture, to remain. The risk of capture was greatest at the land frontier and the sea approaches to Hongkong, and evaporated once the illegal immigrant reached the urban areas, where he could turn up at Victoria Barracks and apply for a Hongkong identity card the next day.

But from October 26 onwards (there was a three-day grace for all illegal immigrants who had entered before October 23 to apply for identity cards) carrying of identity cards became compulsory throughout the colony, and anyone found without one (if he turned out to be an illegal immigrant) would be repatriated.

Fines of up to $HK2,000 (£165) were imposed on residents who failed to produce an identity card on demand by the security forces. Employment of people with no identity cards or other specified documents was also banned. Fines of up to $HK50,000 and three years in jail were heavy deterrents.

However, the expected rush for identity cards never materialized. Immigration officials had prepared facilities to cope with 100,000 applicants, but when the 72-hour grace period ended, only 6,952 had surfaced.

Almost immediately after this, a new problem emerged —the "illegals" from Macau and the Indian sub-continent caught by the same net and employment ban, but who were not given a grace period during which to register for legal residence. A number of illegal immigrants from Macau quickly organized themselves to petition Sir Murray MacLehose, the Governor, for an amnesty. The authorities, however, steadfastly refused, despite a great deal of public sympathy for this category of "illegals".

Community leaders argued that this minority had never been a burden on the economy; many had raised families and settled peacefully in the overcrowded colony.

The processing of these Macau and sub-continental illegal immigrants is still going on and a few have been repatriated.

Illegal immigration from China and Macau is now down to a trickle and those captured have attempted to enter during the holiday breaks at Christmas and the Chinese New Year. Most maintain they were unaware of the new policy.

Thousands of identity cards have been reported missing but the police are unable to say whether these have been stolen for purposes of forgery or lost through carelessness.

The fear that the tough policy would create an illegal sub-world has so far not been substantiated although police sources say as much as 64 per cent of armed robberies of goldsmiths' shops and other violent quick-cash crimes are committed by "illegals".

Scrapping the "touch-base" policy, however, has plugged only one immigration hole; an average of 150 Chinese are still entering the colony legally every day and officials say this number is still much too high. Legal immigration from China at this rate adds 55,000 people to the population each year, and the Government wants this to be reduced to 50 a day. Talks with the Chinese authorities on this issue, if they have been held, have not been publicized.

Most Chinese who enter legally stay on: only 3 per cent eventually return home, immigration officials say. The Government is, consequently, applying stricter rules on visa extensions.

Now that immigration is not such a problem, the Government is faced with the unenviable task of creating a better social environment for the population, officially estimated at 5,067,500 in June, 1980.

The only person who thinks this figure is "probably correct" is the director of the Census and Statistics Department. Everyone else imagines there are at least six million people in Hongkong. Such estimates are based on rough visual surveys of overcrowded hospital wards, schools and public transport facilities.

If the population census does show a much higher figure than 5,100,000, the problem of providing adequate social services will be enormous.

Some $HK3,500m (£289m) is already needed to build enough public housing, hospitals and clinics, schools and industrial training workshops for the 350,000 Chinese estimated to have entered legally and illegally since January 1978. All this would only maintain existing levels of service, according to the Government.

Observers quickly add that existing levels are already far from adequate. There is also the problem of unemployment. The latest Labour Department figures show that 101,900 people are unemployed—4 per cent of the working population.

Although Hongkong's unemployment rate can hardly be deemed a problem in international terms, the social effects of even a limited recession in this overcrowded colony cannot be taken lightly. This dip is already evident in the manufacturing sector, which employs 42 per cent of the workforce.

Of this, 54 per cent is said to comprise immigrant Chinese youths, most of whom are barely literate and will not find work in a slack labour market. Their discontent at not finding the "better life" which they thought lay over the hills from the Guangdong communes, coupled with their lack of commitment to the Honkong work ethic, could well present as difficult a problem as the illegal sub-world the Government feared the closing of the immigration doors would bring.

a Special Correspondent

Defence

Easier times for the garrison

The popular impression of a Hongkong posting as a sunny vacation for soldiers bored with life at home or in West Germany has been outdated by events of the past five years. But the life and hard times of the 6,000-strong garrison should become a little easier during the 1980s.

The garrison was reduced to its present size under the Defence Costs Agreement (DCA) of 1976, which also committed the Hongkong Government to pay three quarters of the cost of maintaining it. Britain withdrew an infantry battalion, an artillery regiment and an armoured reconnaissance squadron, removed one of the two brigade headquarters, and made other cuts in the naval and RAF strengths.

Of those remaining only 1,500 are British. These include an infantry battalion with six (temporarily eight) Scout helicopters of the Army Air Corps; a Royal Navy contingent of nearly 500, with five elderly patrol boats, which are converted Ton-class minesweepers; and 265 RAF men equipped with eight Wessex helicopters. Negotiations are going on to replace the naval craft with new, purpose-built patrol boats, but the RAF is happy to retain its Wessex helicopters which, it says, are ideal for the job. There is also a Royal Marines small boat section, on temporary reinforcement duties, which might well remain.

The rest of the garrison is made up by three of the Army's five Gurkha battalions, all of which are stationed in the New Territories, as is the brigade or field force headquarters. The British battalion has its home at Stanley Fort, on the far side of Hongkong island. But the Commander British Forces (CBF) and his staff have their headquarters in a new £7m tower block at HMS Tamar, the old naval shorebase. The CBF recently moved there from Victoria barracks, the leafy compound where his predecessors had administered the pax Britannica for 135 years. The present CBF is Major-General John Chapple. He is a former Gurkha officer, but that is a rare coincidence.

The garrison has several roles, the least convincing of which is to defend Hongkong against external aggression. The main external threat to the tiny colony is that China, which recognizes Hongkong *de facto* but not *de jure*, might one day press for its return to Chinese rule. There is no imminent danger of the Chinese doing so, but if they did nobody pretends that the garrison could stop them.

The troops also undertake a certain amount of community relations work, running youth camps, building roads and fetching water in times of drought. But this activity has declined in recent years, partly because it takes time and money, but also because the locals are not thought to have been very appreciative.

The main role is that of internal security, acting in support of the police as the Army does in Northern Ireland, although Northern Ireland does not represent a very happy analogy. Nevertheless there were big riots in 1967, as an overspill of the cultural revolution in the People's Republic; and with so many people in such a small space, the police would probably not be able to cope on their own if trouble recurred.

Most of the garrison's time during the past few years has been monopolized by the problem of illegal immigration. Last year . Chinese were caught, on average, each day by British and Gurkha patrols on the border—and nearly ...

continued on facing page



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Printing

Hurtling out of space came the 'Herald Tribune'

Asian journalists had to contend with an invader from Europe when the *International Herald Tribune* came hurtling out of space in September and staked its claim to a place in the world's major growth area.

The *Tribune* which was *already selling 2,000 copies* in Asia despite arriving at least two days late, is aiming to increase circulation tenfold, although its break-even point is somewhere about *36,000 copies*. It is giving itself three years to make it with its Asian edition sent by satellite from Paris and printed in Hongkong.

While it is still too early *to forecast whether it will* meet its *target—although* the dismissal of the editor in Paris and a drastic reorganization of the publishing department in Hongkong are hardly happy *omens—the* paper will face stiff competition

Its main drawbacks are its price, which is the equivalent of 22p to 33p depending on the country, and its European bias. It will have to make a conscious effort to do well editorially in a continent which feels by and large neglected in the editorial pages of European newspapers.

Its direct competitor is the *Asian Wall Street Journal*, whose leaning towards business rather than general news coverage is an asset in selling to American and European businessmen.

The *Journal* was sufficiently worried to move its printing times forward. It used *to print at 11 am but* had to cope with the publication of the *Tribune* four hours earlier.

The *Tribune* will have to be patient in waiting to show *a profit on its Asian run if* the *Journal's* experience is anything to go by. The Asian *Journal* lost £500,000 a year for three years and only in recent months has moved *marginally into the black*.

Another problem is distribution throughout Asia. Hongkong is an ideal publishing centre because it has good communications and *financial services and is reasonably* centrally located among countries with the best sales potential. Publishers suffer little government interference and pay low taxes.

Unfortunately, Asian regional newspapers and magazines suffer from overt and hidden censorship in various countries.

If a publication is lucky, censors may be satisfied with putting printer's ink in large smears down an offending article. Rather more frustrating is when issues lie around at airports, or in the Home Affairs Ministry office, for hours or days without explanation.

An encouraging thought for the *Tribune*, however is that other publishers are *clearly keen to be in Asia*. Dow Jones has an interest in the main newspaper in Hongkong, the *South China Morning Post*, and in the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, the highest selling Asian political and economic magazine, as well as pushing in with its *Asian Wall Street Journal*.

Reader's Digest has announced its faith in the review's rival, *Asiaweek*, by buying 80 per cent of this newer publication.

Several business magazines are published in Hongkong as well as many specialist publications such as *Petroleum News* and *Computer Asia*. They are matched by a range of women's magazines which sell profitably despite printing every article twice, once in English and once in Chinese, and despite a remarkably trivial content.

Local newspapers abound. There are four English-language dailies although fewer than 100,000 people living in Hongkong speak English as their native language. Two *depend on sales to highly* educated Chinese; the other two are tabloids aiming for the Chinese eager to improve their English.

There are nearly 100 Chinese language newspapers, but most make little attempt to cover the news. They rely on such features as an advice column, a trouble-shooter service, racing tips, specialized *classified* advertising and even outright pornography.

With reporters' salaries as low as £100 or less a month, journalists in the Chinese press may accept bribes to write stories or keep them out of the paper. This can be especially lucrative where show business personalities are concerned. Because of a *loophole* in the law, this bribery is not illegal as long as the editor knows, and he is likely to condone the receiving of gifts if that helps to keep wages down.

Until recently Hongkong has been a growth area for publication of books. Among the British publishers with operations or affiliates in Hongkong are *Heinemann, Collins, Oxford* University Press, Hamlyn and Longman. Apart from Chinese books, the main activity is educational books for Chinese children learning English.

Bolstering the printing industry have been substantial orders from Britain and Australia, whose publishers have found it cheaper to print in Hongkong and ship the books back.

If anything, Hongkong printers became too successful. The glut of printing orders swamped the printers and pushed up wages, thus eroding the twin advantages of speed and low costs that Hongkong enjoyed. The influx of immigrants from China and Indo-China brought farmers, labourers and businessmen, but certainly not printers, to bolster this workforce in the industry.

The shortage of skilled labour in the printing industry has been compounded by insufficient training facilities.

The worldwide recession brought a cut in overseas orders in the second half of last year, particularly from Britain and Australia. This affected mainly small and medium-scale printing companies.

Printers say publishers in Britain and Australia, worried about dwindling market demand, are holding up orders or placing only trial orders to test their markets. Australia used to take more than 30 per cent of Hongkong's exports of books and pamphlets, but the figure has dropped to 23 per cent.

Hongkong faces protectionism in printing as it does in other industries. Australian printers now enjoy a government subsidy equivalent to a third of the value of the printing order; *Canada imposes import* duties and American books printed overseas cannot be sold in the United States.

Despite the additional burden of increasing raw *material costs Hongkong* printers remain generally optimistic. They are depending on a high level of technical skills, high efficiency, ease of communications and *still competitive costs* to tide them over.

The high standards in the supporting industries, including typesetting, colour separation and camera work, help Hongkong *to maintain* its lead over Asian competitors such as Singapore and South Korea.

A Special Correspondent

Film industry

Spread of colour TV has not signalled a decline

In the New Territories of Hongkong every last hut and shack is equipped with its own colour television set. In the West, this would surely signal the decline, if not the demise, of local cinema. But Hongkong has one of the most thriving popular film *industries in the world*, together with India and Japan.

Although it is such a small place Hongkong, with its population of between five and six million, rapidly on the increase, compares favourably with many of the smaller language areas of Europe—Norway, Holland, Finland and Albania, for instance—which are trying to *maintain their own independent* cinema production. And Hongkong films can go straight to audiences in Taiwan, Singapore, and indeed all over South-east Asia, not to mention the large Chinese communities abroad—in the United States and Britain particularly.

If the enormous potential audiences in mainland China *are ever made accessible to* them (it has not really happened yet, but with the constant blurring of once hard-and-fast distinctions, it is always a possibility) the commercial potentialities are limitless. Especially since, although these days almost all films from Hongkong are shot in Cantonese, there exist alternative versions in Mandarin for many of them, and all are subtitled so as to be accessible to any literate person, whichever of the Chinese family of languages he speaks.

Until about 10 years ago, Hongkong films were strictly for Chinese consumption, since they did not have any of the obvious cultural advantages presented by the best of Japanese and Indian cinema. Nor any of the cultural pretensions: this was unashamedly popular cinema directed straight at the heart of its reliable mass audiences.

That situation did not change, but the international vogue of the kung fu movie, fuelled by the presence of the first Chinese international superstar, Bruce Lee, demonstrated that Hongkong films' unaffected values as thoroughly professional popular entertainment were effective far beyond the Chinese community.

Though kung fu has faded a little in popularity—to be replaced it seems with the less imaginative urban violence of the new Hollywood vigilante cycle—a number of Hongkong-made kung fu movies still find extensive international release, providing a useful open door into world markets which perhaps Hongkong film-makers will be able to find other ways of exploiting.

However, that remains just the gilt on the gingerbread. *Production of feature* films has been steadily rising in Hongkong during the past few years. In 1978, 91 features were made; in 1979, 105; and though figures for 1980 are not yet available, the indications are that there has been a further increase.

Most of these films fall into one of four clear categories: martial arts, ghost stories, musical romances and broad comedies, usually with the accent on youth. The martial arts films often contain elements verging on the supernatural, but as a rule their limits are strictly defined. The ghost stories, always a staple of Chinese cinema, seem to get gorier every year, with the talents of the studios' make-up and special effects departments being pushed to the limit in the simulation of gruesome deaths, spectacular enchantments and (a particular favourite) hideous scarring and decomposing flesh.

The paler charms of the traditional romance with songs (often based on some episode from a classic Chinese novels like *The Story of the Stone*) seem to have been falling rather from favour, though there are always some people ready for a good cry. The bouncy youth-oriented farces, often featuring assorted Chinese Shirley Temples and Freddie Bartholomews, or Judy Garlands and *Mickey Rooneys*, in careful graded sizes, seem able to absorb everything from lachrymose musical interlude to all-out comedy any *aficionado* of *Carry On* or *Cheech and Chong* would instantly recognize.

The biggest producer of these films in Hongkong is still Sir Run Run Shaw, working from a studio with backlots and standing sets such as has hardly been seen in Hollywood for 20 years; though even in Hongkong the suburban sprawl threatens to engulf it. Compared with the Shaw enterprise other studios—there are nearly 40 of them, mostly on the mainland—tend to have rather the air of Poverty Row, with their few all-purpose sets huddled together in the middle of already built-up residential or industrial districts.

Of late, the rigid studio system of production has been breaking down a little; few film-producing companies can now contrive to keep all their facilities fully occupied round the year with their own product, and so more and more often they hire out to independents.

This seems to be creating an opening for the long-desired new wave of Hongkong cinema. There has been a vocal minority of Hongkong filmgoers who are not satisfied with the fare regularly offered by local film-makers, and feel that the time is ripe for something a little more adventurous. An increasing number of young Hongkong Chinese, also, have been studying at film schools in Britain and America, and coming back *with bright new ideas* which they want to put into effect.

Last year's Hongkong international film festival (another effective impetus for change in Hongkong cinema) *included six first feature* films completed that year. Only one, *The Butterfly Murders*, was a big-budget martial arts film (handled with freedom and independence); three were independent productions by new companies, and the other two were financed by their own writer-directors.

Five of the six directors had studied abroad, and the sixth had a background in experimental cinema; five had worked extensively in television, and the sixth was already experienced in documentaries. These films, *which were merely a selection* from a far larger number of independent and first features produced, strongly suggest that new blood is likely to put new life into the old industry, before it becomes too mummified. They also suggest that the industry as it stands is so effective and confident that it can absorb new talent and new ideas, and can afford to indulge them. The prospects for the 1980s seem to be good not only for quantity of production but also for quality.

John Russell Taylor

Art market

Not the place to buy pots

For the casual visitor with an interest in Chinese ceramics, Hongkong is definitely not the place to buy pots. Its shops abound with clever modern fakes, and even respectable dealers feel little compunction in passing them on to the unwary as genuine.

If you are serious in your intentions, you must go with carefully prepared introductions to the few dealers who handle genuine wares, and with enough knowledge to convince them that you are a desirable client. They cannot be found without guidance—their shops may appear to be something quite else, one a junk shop, one a jeweller.

Alternatively, you can time your visit to Hongkong to coincide with the series of sales that Sotheby's hold there every spring and autumn. Sotheby's have been holding sales in Hongkong since 1973 and have achieved a remarkable transformation of the market. The sales have been organized under the control of a *Sotheby director, Mr Julian* Thomson, a Cambridge mathematician turned sinologue; he is among the most respected connoisseurs of Chinese art to be found today in either East or West.

The first impact of Sotheby's sales in Hongkong was to bring the market in genuine, important ceramics out into the open. Their policy is not generally to take goods from the West to sell there, but to auction goods that come in for sale locally—genuine, carefully vetted goods. The accent is thus predominantly on goods that appeal to Chinese taste.

Most prized by Chinese collectors are the Imperial *Ming and Qing wares; that* is, wares made in the imperial kilns between the fifteenth and eighteenth *centuries, either for use in* the emperor's palaces, or as gifts for devoted friends and attendants. Characteristic are the paper-thin porcelain cups and dishes decorated in colours with flowers and fruit, unregimented by symmetry, but beautifully and carefully placed in relation to the form of the piece to be decorated. Often small, they are the epitome of refinement.

As the years have gone by, the taste of Chinese collectors appears to have moved backwards. Fourteenth and fifteenth century Ming blue and white wares were first sought after with enthusiasm about five years ago.

More recently, and this was particularly underlined by the sale of the great Chow collection last autumn, collectors have moved back to the Song dynasty and have begun to show an interest in Tang.

Edward T. Chow was born in Jiangsu province in 1910 and began his career as a dealer in Shanghai. He established links with the West at an early age, and in 1949, after a short stay in New York, settled in Hongkong. He retired from dealing in 1968 and settled in Geneva until his death in 1980. He began his personal collection at about the age of 20, keeping for himself pieces whose rarity, beauty and perfect condition met *his exacting standards*.

The sales of the Chow collection were divided between Hongkong and London; another is due to take place in Hongkong this spring. Sotheby's worked in collaboration with Chow's friend of many years, the Paris dealer M Michel Beurdeley. A fifteenth century Chenghua *doucai* chicken cup, a tiny piece of exquisite decoration and of extreme rarity, was sold for SHK4.8m (£401,133). Sotheby's had been predicting a price of about £100,000.

Even more surprising, in a sense, was the result of the London sale which contained the pieces judged by Sotheby's to be of more Western taste. The Hongkong contingent arrived in *London in force*, and carried away most of the early Ming and Song ceramics. A flower-shaped brushwasher of the Song dynasty realized £330,000; it was a recent addition to the collection, having been sold by Sotheby's in November, 1972, for a mere £14,000. There was even interest in the archaic bronzes—a new field for Hongkong buyers.

Though Hongkong is small it has many rich businessmen, both Chinese and expatriate, and the rich like jewels. Sotheby's did not take long to realize that there was an excellent local market in jewelry to be tapped. It began to hold jewel auctions in Hongkong in 1975, and these have become a regular feature of its auctions.

Things have not always gone well with these sales. On occasion there have been no buyers for important diamond pieces or other standard coloured stones. In one area, however, there has never been any slackening of demand: fine jade jewelry is always hotly competed for. Jade, especially if a fine translucent emerald green colour, is as much prized by the Chinese as are diamonds in the West.

A recent development has been auctions devoted to twentieth-century Chinese painting. Most of the artists now live in Shanghai, Hongkong or Taiwan but worked *in all parts of China in pre*-revolutionary days.

Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Easier times for garrison

continued from facing page

times that number were thought to have safely escaped to Kowloon. Most came overland but many also by sea, either by boat or by swimming.

The effect of this on the tiny garrison was unpopular. The four battalions which had been taking it in turns to guard the border, for four to six weeks at a time, found themselves working as hard as their colleagues in Northern Ireland, although without the danger. Wives of the British battalion, whose married quarters are scattered round the colony, complained of family separation on an unprecedented scale. An additional battalion had to be sent from Britain, with specialist support, to help to push back the tide.

There were also operational disadvantages. Troops were spending so much time catching immigrants that they had no time to train for their other internal security tasks, or for the month-long jungle warfare *exercises which* each battalion undergoes every year in Brunei or Fiji.

The problem has eased for several reasons, and is likely to become still more *manageable in future*. One reason is that a new high fence has been built on the border. Another is that the Chinese authorities are co-operating more closely than *before and are preventing* many would-be immigrants from reaching the frontier.

The most important reason however was the recent ending of the "touch base" rule, under which those who *escaped* the garrison's net were allowed to stay in the colony. The need to have an official identification card to find work has meant that illegal entry is no longer worth the effort and the risk. Nearly 500 a day were caught in the last week before the "touch base" era ended, but the number dropped to 28 or so overnight.

The burden on the garrison should grow lighter as a result of the latest DCA which was signed last October. The need to revise the agreement arose from the effect of rising costs. The new one, while not altering the proportion of costs paid by Britain and the Hongkong Government, has in effect meant that Hongkong will pay more through an improvement in the accounting system.

But Britain in turn agreed to return the second battalion, which had earlier been withdrawn, on a permanent basis. Illegal immigration was not *directly* the underlying reason, according to official sources. The growth in population had indicated the need for more troops in case internal security was seriously threatened.

The extra battalion will not be formed until next year. Accommodation has to be found before it can arrive. Initially it will be a fourth Gurkha battalion, but the long-term intention is to draft a British battalion to *the colony, partly to increase* the opportunity for British soldiers to serve there, and partly to allow Gurkhas a chance to serve somewhere else.

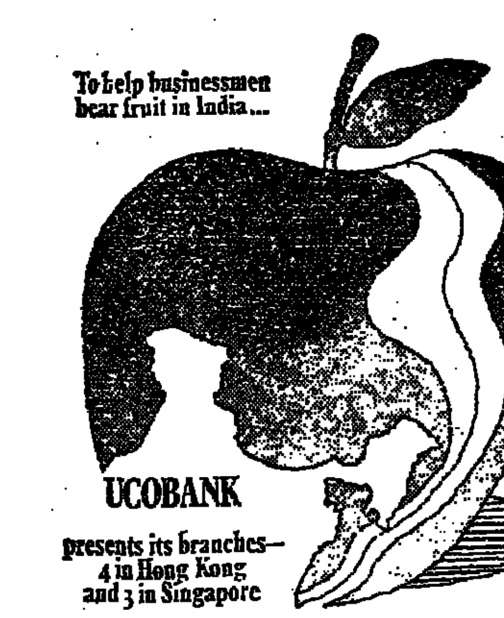
The 1,000-strong Hongkong Military Service Corps, comprising locally enlisted Hongkong recruits who serve as drivers, mechanics or interpreters, is also to be expanded, probably by 50 per cent. It is hoped that this will enable the corps to take on more active duties.

Sources point out that on numbers alone one could make out a case for sending two extra battalions to the colony, not one, but the planned expansion in the size and scope of the service corps should obviate this need. It is hoped that by the end of next year troops should have more time in which to practise their internal security skills, familiarizing themselves with the teeming enclaves of Kowloon, or learning how to land from helicopters on the *tops of* Hongkong's tower blocks in the hunt for potential terrorists.

They should also have more time in which to enjoy life in the colony. Single and married British servicemen are still waiting for the travel posters to become true.

Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

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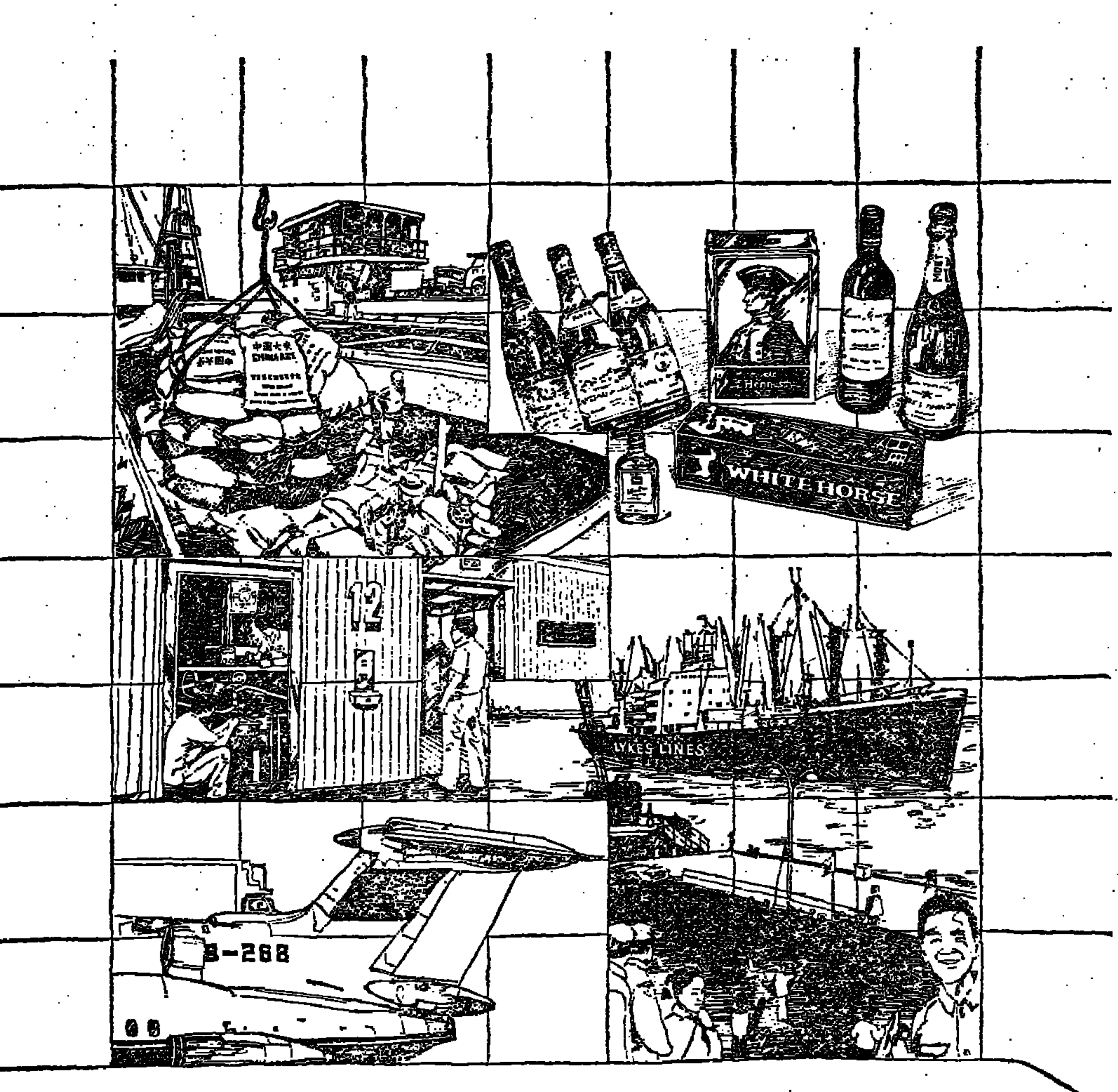
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Tory and Labour politicians on the need for a new deal for ratepayers

Rates: picking up the bill for rough justice

Rate increases proposed for next year range so far from a reduction of 9.8 per cent by Eastbourne to an increase of 150 per cent by Bassetlaw. Ratepayers will be neither as well off nor as badly off respectively when the county precepts are added to these eccentric changes, but they indicate a range which cannot simply be ascribed to "good housekeeping" on the one hand and "wilful profligacy" on the other.

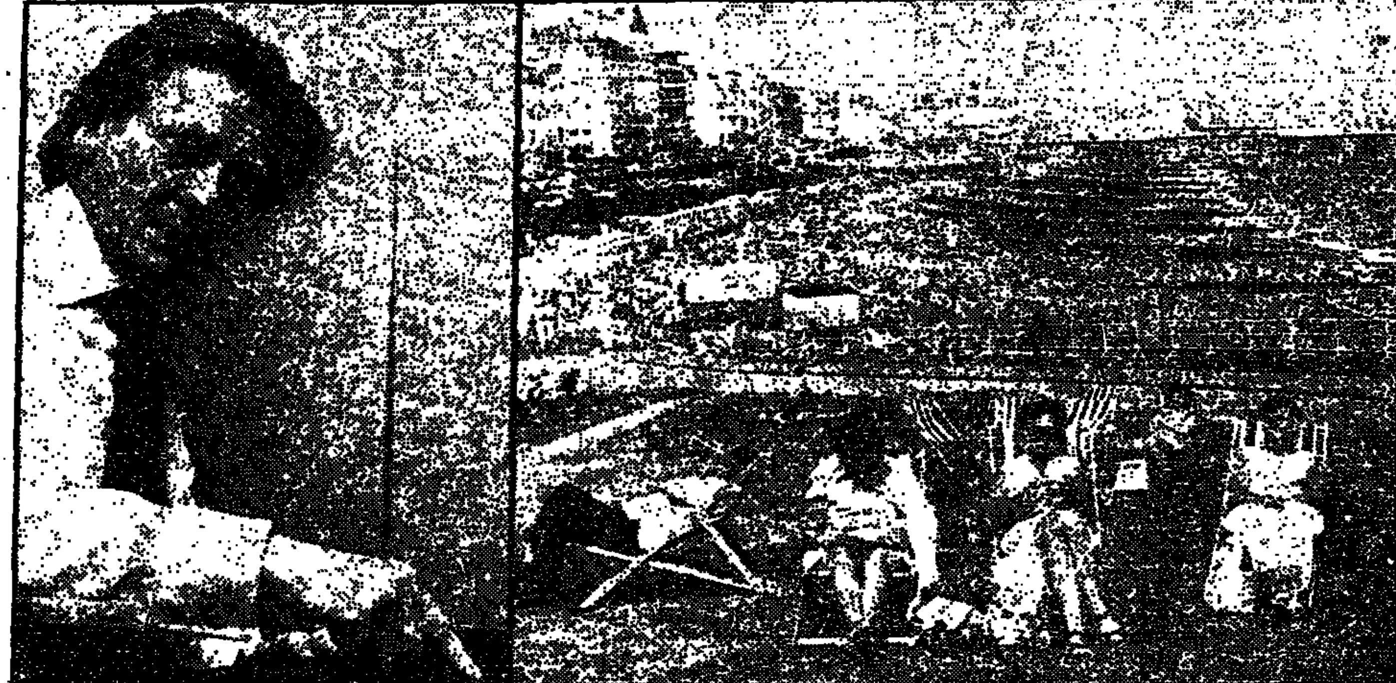
There are a few councils, Labour controlled and with Lambeth in the van as always, which are refusing to make the spending reductions called for by the Government, but that does not explain why loyal Conservative councils such as Wandsworth and Kensington and Chelsea are putting up their rates by 30-50 per cent, way above the inflation rate and the hopes of Mr Michael Heseltine.

Local government finance is in a mess, and when that happens, as it did in 1974-75 with reorganization, and now with changes in the rate support grant system, rates become the scapegoat because they are so easily identified.

The rating system itself has two main drawbacks. It takes no account of ability to pay, except for allowing rate rebates, and it fails to tax a large number of earners who are not ratepayers.

The Conservative party are pledged to the abolition of domestic rates, but are still trying to find an alternative which will enable them to do so. Now the Labour party has finally joined them. Mr Gerald Kaufman, shadow environment minister, told the party's local government conference last month that the rating system was an "irrational, ineffective and highly-resented form of tax."

On Saturday, the Conservatives hold their local government conference, with a full hand of Government ministers to rally the councillors to



Mr Heseltine and sunny Eastbourne, where the rates are actually going down.

greater feats of loyalty. Mr Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, and Mr Tom King, Minister for local government, will doubtless defend the new block grant system and compare Conservative "goodies" with Labour "baddies".

There are, however, a large number of Conservative as well as Labour councils which have failed to comply with the Government's targets. Local authorities have been set different targets—a reduction of three per cent over spending targets this year and more recently a reduction of 5.6 per cent over spending in 1978-79. They also have their individual grant related expenditure assessments (GREAs) which are designed to give each council an indication of the cost of providing a typical standard of service.

Latest figures show that most county councils have set budgets substantially above their GREAs and have exceeded the target for a 5.6 per cent reduction. Overall, it is estimated by the Society of County Treasurers that the excess could be £400-500m.

A shift in resources from London and the other metropolitan areas to the shire counties has helped them to keep their rate increases down to an average just in double figures, with Humberside managing a reduction and Wiltshire a nil increase.

That shift has to be paid for, and London is worst hit, losing an estimated £200m. Mr Heseltine provided a safety net to prevent too big a drop, but has set it so close to the ground that no trapeze artist would trust it.

Looking at the Government guidelines, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy—which represents treasurers in local authorities and the public sector—estimated that rate increase on average could be very small, or even nil, if all those guidelines were followed.

The difficulty is in complying with the guidelines, which include the 5.6 per cent spending reduction and allowances of 6 per cent for pay increases and 11 per cent for price inflation. A likely overspending in the year ending March 31, 1981, and the withholding of grant as a penalty, makes the 5.6 per cent reduction target even less accessible.

All the pay increases so far agreed, including the firemen, manual workers and now the teachers with 7.5 per cent, have exceeded the 6 per cent pay target.

Councils traditionally overbudget and allow for higher inflation than the guidelines, and both of these factors, whether needed or not, will raise the rates. A further difficulty comes with the new distribution system, which has no effect on the overall size of the grant, but gives some councils more, taking from others.

In practice, those authorities gaining grant will not use all of it to reduce their rates, using some to preserve services and to swell the reserves.

Taking all these into account, CIPFA has estimated that rates will on average increase by 20 per cent. The one area which Mr Heseltine believes should yield the necessary savings is in manpower, which represents 70 per cent of local government costs.

It is one which local authorities have so far resisted. Since the Government came to power, staff in England dropped by 1.7 per cent, 32,578, which scarcely dents the 2m total. There are signs that staff are being shed at a faster pace now, with an estimated 5,000 jobs lost each week.

Wandsworth's efforts to reduce their staff by 700 (10 per cent) were immediately halted by union opposition.

While the Lambeths refuse to cut their services and prepare to face the penalty at their ratepayers' expense, other councils are reducing their services.

Essex county council have increased their rate precept by 10.8 per cent, and their budget is almost exactly in line with the Government's GREA target. They have not succeeded in achieving the 5.6 per cent cut.

The reductions to be made in services go across all the services and are mostly small. They range from reductions in school catering, and a decision to clean school windows only once a year to a reduction in the surfacing of roads and single manning on mobile libraries.

The one example of Essex shows that services are gradually and perceptibly being reduced, while charges increase.

Mr Heseltine admited that the first year of the new grant system would inevitably contain an element of rough justice. That is all too apparent, and the wide disparity in rate increases is less an indication of the different spending decisions of local authorities than the result of Government grant changes.

Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Michael Binyon reviews the unchanging attitudes of the Kremlin old guard

Going through the motions in Moscow

No change—the message of the 26th Party Congress could not have been put over more emphatically than it was on the final day when President Brezhnev rose, with preordained applause, to announce the reelection of every single member of the ruling Politburo to his old position.

It is thought to be virtually unprecedented for no political change of any kind to be made during a Party Congress. But no Russian is surprised. Officials explained that this demonstrated the Party's full trust in the leadership and appreciation of their policies. Ordinary people said that the old men at the top, with an average age of nearly 70, had no intention of relinquishing power

Not only is there to be no change in the faces, but also none in the party's policies. The message President Brezhnev and his prime minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, aged 75, put over to the 5,000 delegates was a defiant one: whatever the critics may say, the party's ideology is true and correct, whatever the shortages and disappointments, its economic strategy is right. The Party will still lead the people to that undefined utopia, communism, but because of the machinations of its enemies and the world economic situation, this will take a little longer than promised.

The very defiance of the declarations betrays an extreme sensitivity to the critics and carries a note of despairing determination to believe, whatever the evidence. "Socialism is alive and developing. And it is not that we simply believe, we know beyond a doubt. Our supreme goal will be reached and communist society will be built", Mr Brezhnev declared

The Russians have felt their beliefs and way of life increasingly challenged on all fronts, and wanted reassurance. The Party Congress was held to give it, publicly and lavishly. There was no debate or questioning, for none was required. During the eight days of speeches barely a whisper of criticism of Soviet policy was heard. What was wanted was a "ringing display of unity and solidarity" which could be shown to the world.

To that extent the Congress achieved its aims. All awkwardnesses were avoided: the delegates were carefully selected beforehand, and knew when and how long to applaud. The speakers vied with each other in heaping praise on the Party and its leaders, reeling off lists of achievements accomplished

Foreign delegates, tributaries but not contributors in the words of one Western diplomat, fulfilled the role expected, and reassured Moscow that it was still the capital to which the world communist movement looked for leadership and inspiration. And those parties, such as the Italians, who looked like being awkward, were simply not allowed to speak and had to be content with addressing political rallies on the fringe of the Congress. Only Mr Gordon McLennan, secretary of the small British Communist Party, and the only speaker from a so-called Eurocommunist Party, mentioned any disagreement over Afghanistan—and then only passingly.

The atmosphere was as ritualistic as the aim. There was no improvisation, no interruption, no touch of levity. Virtually the only joke was made by Professor Anatoly Alexandrov, the President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, who referred to the lighthearted call by Mr Brezhnev at the previous Congress for a bomb to be invented against influenza. Professor Alexandrov, in his eighties, reported success: he had not been ill for five years.

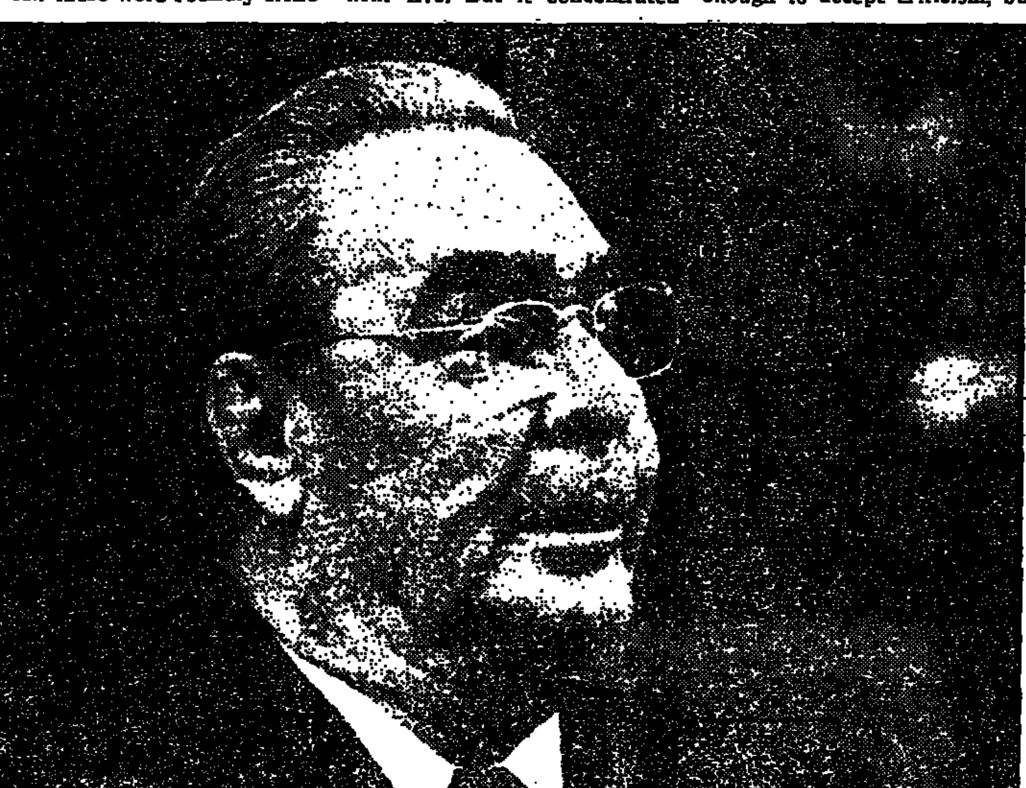
But if the Party line was correct and was to remain unchanged, there had to be some explanations: why was the Soviet economy in trouble, why was Poland in crisis, why was the world outlook so menacing? The fault, it seemed, lay not with the leaders but with their underlings: officials who had not followed the Party's precepts or listened to the people's needs, factory managers who had allowed the forces of inertia to take control, shrugged off responsibility and illegally scaled down the targets set for them by the state, trade union officials who had neglected their members' interests, propagandists who had failed to explain the Party's aims and had alienated youth with the tedium of state ideological education.

All these were roundly criticized in Mr Brezhnev's opening report. And indeed beneath all the ritual and verbiage uttered merely for the record, that report and Mr Tikhonov's economic addendum was the one serious document that is of genuine importance to the country, and to foreign statesmen, and which was eagerly awaited and discussed by the bulk of the Soviet population.

On the whole the report has been well received by the average Russian because of its frankness. It made the ritual obeisances to the achievements of the past five years and promises of greater well-being in the next five. But it concentrated on the failures and the future tasks.

Mr Brezhnev touched on almost all the main issues troubling the Soviet people: the lack of food and consumer goods, the appalling health service, alcoholism, the breakdown in family life, the lack of values in modern youth, the black market, poor conditions and lack of motivation in factories, nationalism, law and order, the flight from the countryside and so on.

He promised improvements, but only if people worked for them. The Party was not wrong, he asserted, and was mature enough to accept criticism, but it was the people now who had to make the effort. And Mr Tikhonov compared today's economic challenge with the gigantic task of industrializing the country in the 1930s.



Mr Brezhnev: still on the way to that undefined Utopia.

The problem is that Mr Brezhnev's document accurately pinpoints the difficulties but in promising more of the same policies does not suggest ways of achieving change or rekindling motivation. And the cynics, a growing segment of the population, while applauding the words of the report, are sceptical that deeds will follow. The same has been promised too often before. Can the same faces, they wonder, do now what they have failed to do for the past five years? Are they really in touch with the mood and lives of ordinary people.

Mr Brezhnev's report also signalled no basic change in the Soviet Union's outlook on the world. The Congress naturally praised the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy, heaping angry blame on the West for the present international crises. But this was part of the ritual. Any serious discussion of the proposals put forward on disarmament, East-West relations, a possible place in private, far away from Summit meeting, can only take a feast of ideological rhetoric.

The average Russian has been inundated with reports and commentaries on the Congress. He will hear plenty more about it in the next few years as he is urged to fulfil its unanimously adopted resolutions. He never expected any radical changes. "Whoever is in charge, things will be the same" one man commented fatalistically.

And at a time when he is increasingly worried about the worsening international situation, the Party has attempted to reassure him that the ship of state will sail on, though into rougher waters, without deviating, with the same crew and the same captain. No one expected otherwise.

Bernard Levin

Who wants to live for ever?

Considering that the only thing we know with complete certainty about ourselves from the day we are born is that we are going to die and that there is nothing we can do about it, it has always struck me as curious that we spend extraordinarily large amounts of time and energy trying to persuade ourselves to the contrary. Whether the search for immortality comes from our fear of what happens in that undiscover'd country from whose bourne no traveller returns, or from a life-instinct so strong that it simply cannot accept the finite nature of life, or from the conviction that if we could only put off the inevitable a little longer we would understand before we die that which we are brought into the world to understand, I cannot say. (And, now I come to think of it, I would be a very remarkable fellow if I could.) But I have always been fascinated by the hunt for the philosopher's stone of eternal life on earth, a hunt which is briefly intensified every few years when scientists announce that the elixir has been found, in the form of a diet consisting, say, entirely of raw meat, or one excluding even the smallest particle of raw meat, a menu based on milk and cheese, or on the strict avoidance of all dairy products; a regimen which involves a substantial breakfast every day, or a stern injunction to touch no food before lunch.

Do this (or, as it might be, that), say the promoters of the latest fashion in longevity, and you will live to be a hundred or more, as has been demonstrated beyond all possibility of argument by the fact that white mice fed on the fad have on average lived for nearly a week longer than those given more conventional food.

These thoughts are prompted by a series in the *Sunday Mirror*, and in particular by the argument of a Mr Nathan Pritikin, who insists that if you follow his diet (as much chicken and turkey as you can carry away, likewise bread and tinned fruit) there is no reason why you should not live to be 120. More: "When you are 105 you should still be enjoying life and even playing doubles tennis." (Partnered by your grandfather, no doubt.)

Now, I have no wish to play tennis at any age, never mind 105. I shall not, therefore, immediately start to live by Mr Pritikin's precepts (no salt or salad-dressing, incidentally) particularly since in a couple of years some deutero-Pritikin will be telling us that if we only avoid chicken and turkey and swallow huge quantities of salt and salad-dressing we can be playing rugger at the age of 150. But what I want to do is to draw attention to the fact, almost as curious as the yearning for long life that has always consumed mankind, that in almost all of the accounts of those who have imagined immortality and created a fictional portrait of it, the condition is depicted as being a great deal worse than death.

The most terrible of these demonstrations that God is not mocked is, of course, that of the Struldbruggs in *Gulliver's Travels*. When Gulliver gets to Luggnagg, he learns that a tiny number of men and women, distinguished at birth by a certain mark over the left eyebrow, are immortal, and he goes into transports of envious joy at the thought of such good fortune, cataloguing the varieties of discovery, creation and wisdom that he would set himself to experience if he were one of them.

The Luggnaggians promptly disabuse him, explaining that the prospect of living for ever, so far from pleasing those condemned to it, is a source of terror to them, and no wonder:

> At Ninety they lose their Teeth and Hair; they have at that Age no Distinction of Taste, but eat and drink . . . without Relish or Appetite. . . . In talking they forget the common Appellations · Things, and the Names · Persons, even of those wh are their nearest Friends ar Relations. For the sam Reason they can never amu themselves with reading, b cause their Memory will n serve to carry them from th Beginning of a sentence the End . . . the Langua of the Country being alwa upon the Flux, the Strul bruggs of one Age do u understand those of anothe neither are they able aft two Hundred Years to ho any Conversation . . . wi their Neighbours the Morta . . . They are despised a hated by all Sorts of Peopl . . . They were the most mo tifying Sight I ever behel and the Women more h rible than the Men. Besid the usual Deformities extreme old Age. th acquired an additional Gha liness in Proportion to the Number of Years. which not to be described. . . . Th Reader will easily believ that from what I had hea and seen, my keen Appeti for Perpetuity of Life w much abated . . . and thoug no Tyrant could invent Death into which I would n run with Pleasure from suc a Life.

In almost all of the accounts of those who have imagined immortality . . . the condition is depicted as being a great deal worse than death

An even more horrible fa befalls a couple who ha stumbled upon the elixir in o of Aldous Huxley's novels think it is *Time Must Have Stop*, but they are all more less interchangeable); th retain full consciousness, b degenerate into animals. James Hilton's Shangri-l everybody lives for ever, a nobody even ages; but eve there there is a catch, for a citizen who strays outsi crumbles away at once. As f Shaw's version in *Back Methuselah*, he clearly intende us to be impressed by th unimaginably lofty existence o his immortals, but that wa theory talking; his unconsciou directed him to portray them i a manner which subtly mak them even more dreadful th the Struldbruggs.

Is this, perhaps, the way w assuage the unbearable pain the realization that we are n immortal, and cannot hope be? In other words, is the co sistent portrayal of indefinite prolonged life as indefinite prolonged misery nothing but fit of sour grapes on a cosm scale? Possibly; but possibl also, it is a recognition that t inevitability of death at arou three score and ten is not som thing to be shunned or feare but accepted as part of a great design in our lives; Stewa Alsop, who died of a rare for of leukaemia, wrote a boo *Stay of Execution*, while he wa waiting to discover whether i was in fact fatal, in which h summed up his feelings by say ing "There comes a time whe a dying man has to die, as *sleepy man has to sleep*". N I do not want to live for eve tennis or no tennis. Besides:

> Methuselah *lived nine hundre years*,
> Methuselah lived nine hundre years;
> But who calls it livin'
> When no gal will give in,
> To no guy that's nine hundre years?

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Ronald Butt is ill.

LONDON DIARY

Fulham versus Palace

Fulham Palace, until a few years ago the official residence of the Bishop of London, is the subject of a heated dispute between local residents and Hammersmith and Fulham Council. The heat has been engendered by the council's decision to apply to itself for permission to convert the historic building into offices instead of a museum and community centre.

The land on which the palace stands has been part of the Bishop's estate almost since the dawn of Christianity in Britain. Parts of the building date from the early sixteenth century, and most of it is listed Grade 1 as of outstanding architectural and historic interest.

When the Bishop decided to move house, the council was thought to have staged something of a coup by arranging to lease the palace from the Church Commissioners for a mere £14,000 a year. It was to be used for the benefit of the people of the borough, which implied a mixture of education and recreation. Commercial uses were expressly forbidden.

The admirable intention at the time was to turn the building into a "living" museum, where the public could watch craftsmen at work, and where adults and children would be able to attend courses. The Great Hall would be available for plays and concerts, and local societies would be able to use the various rooms for meetings.

So far about £150,000 is understood to have been spent on restoration, part of it in the form of grants from the Historic Buildings Council. But pressures on public expenditure have led the council to conclude that it cannot complete the project, and to seek instead a wealthy tenant who will convert the building into "prestige" offices, or perhaps an embassy.

A council official yesterday described the new turn of events as "very sad". Residents' groups are using rather stronger language, accusing the council of bad faith and of failing to hold any kind of public discussions.

However the office scheme faces two considerable obstacles. One is that any proposal to change the use of a Grade 1 building, without precise details of what is proposed, will meet powerful opposition from the conservationist lobby. The other is that the Church Commissioners will flatly refuse to alter the terms of the lease.

Good clean fungi

For some reason the organizers of food trade exhibitions always assume that the press is interested only in the exotic and bizarre. Staff at the International Food and Drink Exhibition in London this week are true to type.

They offered our man Canadian whalemeat and Dutch cheese with nettles, but he scored heavily over them by discovering M. Gerard Borde. His family owns one of the largest toadstool companies in Europe, and he arrived at the exhibition in search of a British distributor.

He can supply dried chanterelles, which are yellow and smell of apricots: tinned ceps, which can be sliced and fried, and bottled black morels for stews.

"The peasants go into the woods to pick them", M. Borde explained from behind a jar of saffron milk caps. His company uses 30 part-time workers to search for the crop in the woods of the Auvergne.

Virtually everything he sells can be found in the fields and forests of Britain. Here they are usually regarded as poisonous oddities which are good for kicking but little else. In France and other Continental countries they are gathered for food even though some edible toadstools are easily confused with the most deadly.

M. Borde's prices indicate that he considers his crop to be in a different class from the cultivated mushroom of the English supermarket, a line which sells for between £1 and £1.50 a pound. M. Borde charges 40p for about an ounce of his cheapest dried toadstool, and almost £2 an ounce for the dearest.

I expect a quiet day's racing at Glorious Goodwood on Wednesday, July 29. The sort of people who go there midweek will all be up in London at a wedding. But at least the Test match starting at Edgbaston on July 30 should remain unaffected.

Only just

Mr Justice Warner, taking his seat on the Chancery bench this week on his translation to High Court judge from being Advocate-General at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, began his first day on a suitably international note.



Responding to speeches of welcome from the Bar the new judge, who was formerly Mr Jean-Pierre Warner, quoted the French judicial maxim: "*Pour être juge il ne suffit pas être bête, il faut également être digne*", which for those less learned than himself could be rendered as: "To be a judge, it is not sufficient to be a fool; one must also be worthy."

Then he came a little nearer home, although still in a foreign jurisdiction. He quoted a Scottish judge who, endeavouring to show his reasonableness, said: "I shall try to adopt a middle course between justice and injustice." I am assured that Mr Justice Warner will henceforth be conducting his cases in English, and under English law.

Winning cru

Wine tasting is not a great spectator sport, the invitation to the 28th annual contest between Cambridge and Oxford universities warned. This could be because it is performed in conditions of utmost secrecy, in closed cellars underground.

While the contestants peered, sipped, gargled and spat their way through 12 anonymous bottles below stairs, would-be commentators from the press upstairs were reduced to defying each other to tell red wine from Coca-Cola, or white from Lucozade.

When the last palate had been cleared, it emerged that Oxford, who had trained with two fairly expensive tastings a week for the past four weeks, had run out triumphant again. Defied to name not only the grape, country of origin and vintage of each wine, but also the very village it came from, their top scorer, Roger Brock of Worcester College, amassed 131 points out of a possible 180. Should he wish the young man will have no difficulty qualifying as Wine Bore of the Year.

Band call

Now that we are promised legal citizen's band radio in the autumn, it would be as well to become acquainted with the arcane private language in which the estimated 300,000 existing pirate operators talk to each other across the ether.

CB-speak originated in the United States, where it is widely used by truck drivers to warn their comrades of speed traps and other manifestations of the Highway Patrol. The language is a kind of Esperanto of the road intended to be incomprehensible to eavesdroppers. British users will no doubt invent their own mysterious terms in order to stay one step ahead of the game.

Here is a basic language course; practise the words in front of a mirror until you are fluent.

Breaker—a citizen's band user; *sitting duck*—a CB broadcaster who operates from home rather than in a vehicle; *buzby*—a Home Office official on the prowl for unlicensed transmitters; *good buddy*—hello; *ten-ten*—goodbye; *pository*—yes; *negatory*—no; *twenty*—your location, as in "what is your rough twenty?"; *ten-nine*—"would you repeat that?"; *ten-one*—"I can't hear you very well"; *wall-to-wall*—"I hear you perfectly".

Mobile broadcasters will require a traffic vocabulary: *super-slab*—a motorway; *smokey*—a policeman; *shotgun*—a front seat passenger; *fur-lined seatcover*—a female shotgun; *tail gunner*—a rear seat passenger; *roller-skate*—a Mini-Metro or other small car; *big wheels*—a truck; *eyeball*—two CB-speakers meeting in the flesh.

Copy? Pository? Good, then I can move my twenty across the Gray's Inn blacktop, dodging the roller skates and big wheels, for a few brown bottles. Ten ten all breakers.

A reader flying by a well-known American airline recently found the customary paper bag in his seat pocket, with on one side the legend "For motion discomfort" and on the other, "Save on color film developing—mail your film in this handy bag".

Alan Hamilton

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES
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COST OF RIGIDITY

It has taken far too long for the Government to pay proper attention to complaints from industry that, in comparison with its overseas competitors, it was *being charged* unfairly for its energy supplies. There have been many points of confusion. A rising pound has badly distorted the size of relative price changes and industry has, perhaps understandably, tended to overstate its case. The report of the task force set up on an initiative of the National Economic Development Council now confirms that most industrial customers did not suffer a disadvantage *from* the pricing of their supplies of gas and electricity against their European competitors. For bulk users, accounting by volume for some 50 per cent of industrial electricity consumption and 15 per cent of industrial gas use, the position was sharply *different.*

The task force makes no thorough attempt to differentiate between the effects of the rising pound and other factors, but makes it quite clear that the strength of sterling is not the only way in which British industry has appeared, on the figures it has produced, to be put at a competitive disadvantage. Some of these are a result of genuine cost advantages in the countries concerned, such as the success of the nuclear and hydro power programmes in France. Others reflect different marketing *policies, such as the large* discounts awarded to large users of electricity in Germany. Subsidies given to coal producers on the Continent have been far greater than those *received by* the industry in the United Kingdom, and the tax on heavy fuel oil here, at £8 a tonne, remains among the highest in Europe.

Whatever the details of each individual case, industry may be forgiven for feeling aggrieved *when the richness of Britain's oil* and gas resources has helped damage its international competitiveness through the strength of sterling while competitors overseas receive cheaper energy supplies. The Government has become a victim of its own over-rigid policies of insisting that electricity production covers its cost and gas is priced in relation to its alternatives. By always allowing pricing aimed at energy conservation and a reduction of the public sector borrowing requirement to dominate its thinking, it has put industry at a disadvantage in a way which a more flexible attitude could well have avoided.

Having now conceded that *industry has a case*, the Government's first act has been to criticize its EEC partners for charging uneconomically low prices. A report being prepared by the Commission should show the truth of the accusation and help lead towards greater harmonization of energy pricing. In the meantime the Government has the delicate task of sticking by its broad pricing principles while reducing the burden on industry. *And if bulk energy users are to* be helped, someone else, whether other energy users or the taxpayer, is going to be worse off.

Heavy fuel oil tax should be *cut at least to the average level* throughout Europe. The cost of heavy fuel oil in Britain has now fallen back to the same level as on the *Continent* despite the duty, but if French industry can take advantage of the cost advantages of nuclear and hydro power, it is only fair that British industry should gain benefits from the oil companies' apparent ability to sell cheaper fuel oil here. The motorist, perhaps, should provide the lost revenue by an increase in the duty on petrol.

The problems of the coal industry are being sorted out between the mineworkers, the National Coal Board and the Department of Energy and those plans should include a way of cutting the cost disadvantage to foundries resulting from subsidies to European producers. The most important changes, however, must be to the bulk sale of electricity, and, to a lesser extent, gas. It is contrary to all ideas of conservation to increase the discounts for greater use, but industry is not, in the short term, in a position to cut greatly its consumption over and above the falls that have already taken place. The electricity and gas authorities should, therefore, be encouraged to give larger discounts, partly by spreading the cost among other customers, and partly by an easing of their cash limits. At the same time, incentives to carry out energy saving schemes should be increased. *The Budget, next week, provides* the ideal opportunity to put right what should have been put right some time ago.

PARLIAMENT AND THE PUBLIC PURSE

A year ago the Government published a Green Paper on the Comptroller and Auditor General in which it confirmed his interpretation of his role. In other words, it said that he was right to extend his work beyond a narrow financial audit so as to examine the effectiveness of particular programmes. But it insisted that it would be unwise for him to go beyond that to con*sider the merits of the policies* themselves. But now the Public Accounts Committee, who are served by the Auditor General, have produced much more radical proposals. The Committee would like his activities, and those of the Exchequer and Audit Department for which he is responsible, to be extended in two ways: to examine the merits of the policies themselves as means of achieving their objectives and to cover all bodies in receipt of public money. A new national audit office would be established, incorporating both the Exchequer and Audit Department and the District Audit Service which deals with local authorities.

These ideas need to be considered separately. There is un*questionably* a need for *someone* to be reporting to Parliament, or more precisely to parliamentary committees, on the merits of particular policies in relation to objectives. As things stand, "the form of public expenditure is often not sufficiently tested to see whether the same results could be obtained for less money or indeed better results for the same money". The report goes on to say that "in many cases it is not possible to assess accurately in advance what a change in policy is actually going to cost, nor the difference in cost of doing the same thing one way rather than another, nor, even after the event, what a particular change has cost".

Without such knowledge it is impossible for Parliament to exercise any effective scrutiny over public expenditure. Indeed, one of the principal weaknesses *of British parliamentary practice* at the moment is that expenditure is authorized virtually on the nod. A Select Committee on Procedure is considering how this defect can be remedied. The best procedure would be for the new departmental select committees to be made responsible for scrutinizing the *details of Con*solidated Fund Bills at committee stage. The question would then be how to equip these committees with adequate advice. There could be a strengthening of the present arrangements, whereby each select committee chooses its own specialist consultants. Or there could be a new audit office which would do the job for all of them. In that case it ought to serve the select committees directly, not have its tasks apportioned by the Public Accounts Committee, as this report suggests. One of the weaknesses of the report is that *it does not* relate its proposals sufficiently to the departmental select committees. To expand the PAC by *giving it* subcommittees, at which the report hints, would be an absurd duplication of effort.

The report strays on to more contentious ground with its other proposal: that bodies other than government departments which receive public money *should* also have their expenditure scrutinized. In principle there is a logical case for this. But the scrutiny ought to be of a very different kind if the commercial initiative of nationalized industries is not to be even more inhibited and the freedom of action of local authorities still *more circumscribed.* The creation of a public service or local government inspectorate has been proposed by *The Times* on a number of occasions. It might be wiser to develop that idea rather than to give a national audit office such very different functions.

THE 'DESAPARECIDOS' OF ARGENTINA

The arrest in Buenos Aires of several leading campaigners for human rights is disturbing. Later this month General Roberto Viola is due to take over from General Jorge Rafael Videla. While some might argue that one general is much like another—not least in Latin America—General Viola is widely expected to try and project a more positive image. Five years of military rule have brought an atmosphere of repression and fear, with abductions, killings and mysterious disappearances. While General Viola, like General Videla, will have less power than the military commanders who make up the ruling junta, he will wield considerable influence as Head of State, and has made it clear that he intends to adopt a less aggressive attitude towards political opponents.

The latest crackdown by the Argentine police will not make it easier for the new President to influence his colleagues in a more liberal direction, and indeed could be intended to undermine any such move. Nine human rights campaigners were arrested during a raid on the Centre for Legal and Social Studies, and six are still being held incomunicado. Of these, three—José Frederico Westerkamp, Emilio Mignone, and Augusto Comte Macdonell—are prominent members of a group of lawyers, scientists and other professional men and women who have tried to gather evidence on abuse of human rights by the military regime. *They are by no stretch of the* imagination dangerous radicals, and in more normal circumstances would be considered pillars of the community. As it is, they have been persecuted. Señor Mignone's daughter was arrested in 1976, and has not been seen since. Señor *Westerkamp's son is in prison,* and according to Amnesty International has been badly tortured. Señor Comte Macdonell's son has also "disappeared".

When the army took over in 1976 from the fast collapsing government of Maria Estela Perón, it did so on the grounds that Argentina was *facing an*archy, and that growing violence had brought the country to the brink of civil war. Five years on, terrorism *has indeed* been greatly reduced. But this has been achieved by means of remedies at least as oppressive as the *disease to which they* are applied. There is no apparent prospect of the introduction of democracy, and the return to civilian *rule* promised by the generals always seems to be beyond the ever-receding horizon. According to a report produced by *the* Organisation of American States last year, so many people have simply disappeared without trace in Argentina that the numbers are incalculable, although the OAS puts the figure at between five and twenty thousand. The authorities disclaim responsibility for these disappearances, and disown the bands of thugs who carry out kidnappings, but human rights organizations—including Amnesty International—lay much of the blame at the door of the regime. Of the thousands of *desaparecidos* (those who have disappeared) many if not most are thought to be dead.

In clamping down on human *rights activists,* the *military* junta presumably hopes to stifle voices of dissent, and to counteract brave attempts to investigate the links between *allegedly* unofficial crimes and the regime. The authorities were greatly irked last November by the *award of the Nobel Prize for* Peace to Señor Pérez Esquivel, who is one of the mainstays of moral support for the embattled Argentine human rights lobby. It may be that the junta has been emboldened by suggestions in Washington that under President Reagan the question of human rights is to be given a low priority, and that American friendship with Latin American countries such as Argentina will be strengthened without too many questions being asked. In case this is indeed a calculation in the minds of the Argentine generals, the Reagan Administration should move quickly to disabuse them of the notion that the United States regards terrorism by the state as legitimate.

Social Democrat policies

From Mr W. W. Brewin

Sir, Social Democrat MPs *claim* there is no case for resubmitting themselves to the electorate on leaving the Labour Party as they continue to support the manifesto on which they were elected. (Their justification not mine.) They claim that it is the Labour Party which itself has deviated.

In supporting a manifesto defeated at the last election and pledged to continue the divisive policy of confrontation imposed over the past few years, which is largely responsible for the present state of our country, how can they claim to *represent* a new mood sweeping the nation?

The new mood is one of abhorrence of party politics to excess. A wish to recapture something of the national unity Britain has *shown* at times of crisis. To claim that the last election manifesto of the Labour Party is a recipe for this is ludicrous. A Labour Party of the 1960/70s under the title Soc-Dem is certainly not what the country seeks.

Do the "gang of twelve" support the Labour Party election manifesto divisive as it is—as they claim—or do they truly represent something different, something unique, a potential party reflecting the new national mood—as they claim?

Whichever policy they favour there is no denying they continue the old political tradition of "double-speak".

Yours faithfully,
W. W. BREWIN,
1a Deneholm,
Whitley Bay,
Tyne and Wear.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Debate on economic priorities

From Mr Peter Lloyd, MP for Fareham (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Peter Hordern, MP, is right to wonder (February 27) where our colleagues who wrote to you (February 25) urging a new industrial strategy think they are *going to get the money—assuming* they place any importance at all on that side of the equation.

However their demand for lower interest rates plus additional government-funded investment, abolition of the National Insurance surcharge and extended job release, added to the increased subsidies just committed to British Steel, British Leyland and the National Coal Board, would certainly achieve one of their objectives—the rapid depreciation of sterling as foreigners lost confidence in the Government's determination to keep the economy in balance. This would no doubt bring relief to exporters in the short run but at the cost of reviving inflationary pressures from which everyone, including the most fanatical exporters, would lose in the end.

Peter Hordern rightly stresses that interest rates should only be reduced if accompanied by a reduction in borrowing and draws attention to the scope for saving illustrated by the fact that the NHS staff has increased by 25,000 since the election. But such economies are simply not going to materialize in time to pay for the extra spending already committed, let alone the further outlays suggested.

Yet if interest rates are to come down now, as it is imperative they should—and, even more important, stay down when recovery begins and the private sector is seeking additional finance for stock rebuilding and investment—the Chancellor must revert to his original plans for the progressive reduction in public borrowing.

An increase in direct taxation is the only immediate and sufficient source of the extra revenue required. Moreover, as the deficit is swollen by the effects of recession and unemployment, it is appropriate that those in work, who have on average maintained their real spending power, should meet the bill directly through higher employee National Insurance contributions—or, fairer still, an increase in the standard rate of income tax.

The political difficulties of adopting such a course mid-term are very obvious but they will be much less than approaching the next general election with both inflation and, most probably, interest rates on an upward trend again.

Yours faithfully,
PETER LLOYD,
House of Commons.
March 3.

Royal employment

From Lord Graham

Sir, Through the present congratulations for Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer an occasional clue of what one must suppose is current wisdom *keeps* popping up. Prince Charles ought to have a "proper" job.

This attitude to the monarchy bears a similarity to one of our modern superstitions that landowners stride about their acres while the trees burgeon, the grass grows and every spring the countryside returns itself to its neat storybook appearance without anyone actually doing anything.

In an exhibition of neat footwork, your correspondent of February 25 first shows verbal support for the monarchy as a "supernatural element in the nation" and then seems to infer that most of what Prince Charles does could be passed off on to retired Major-Generals. If the *institution is so important,* is there not a place for a young mind to be brought to bear on its traditions and to find new areas in which it can be made effective?

By *all means suggest that* the Prince should gain experience in industry but admit that it is asking him to do two jobs. Perhaps this is appropriate in our hard-pressed times; but *to use your example,* while it might be "unkind and unnatural punishment" if he were put to it, it would almost amount to "moonlighting" in British Leyland or wherever else.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM,
Auchmar,
Drymen,
Glasgow.
March 2.

Hostels for homeless

From the Director of Church Army Housing and the Manager of the Salvation Army Housing Association

Sir, The "dispute" between The Church Army, Salvation Army and the Campaign for the Homeless and Rootless (Report, February 27) is not over the £12 million the Government has allocated for hostels of all types.

At their recent press conference during the Church of England's General Synod, the Church Army *and Salvation Army were talking of* the particular crisis facing many of their worn-out hostels for homeless people, and were saying that they needed £20 million very quickly—quite separate from any share of the £12 million already allocated—if another 2,500 homeless men and women were not to be put on the streets.

Neither of the two organizations want to perpetuate "large institutional hostels" in the pejorative sense. But the number of single *homeless people with nowhere else* to go is so enormous that, in spite of all our endeavours to produce a wide range of more permanent accommodation (which both societies and their associated housing associations do produce) the large hostels will remain a necessary part of the available provision for some *years to come. The important thing* is that they are run well with every effort to sustain the dignity and self-respect of their residents.

Yours faithfully,
PETER NAISH, Director,
Church Army Housing,
EDWARD ALSOP, Manager,
Salvation Army Housing Association.
as from: 112a Shirland Road, W9.
February 27.

Can Westminster decide for Canada?

From Lord Alport

Sir, Anyone who has the interests of Anglo-Canadian relations at heart and a proper appreciation of contemporary constitutional reality within the Commonwealth must be deeply concerned at the implications for the Westminster Parliament of the present controversy *over the "patriation" of the Cana*dian Constitution.

The so-called "request and consent" convention of the Statute of Westminster was intended to pre*vent the British Parliament* from passing legislation which purported to take effect in and override the powers of the sovereign Parliament of any independent Commonwealth country. It was significantly included in the preamble which has no legislatively binding effect. It did not, and could not, deprive the British Parliament of the right to divest itself of a residual power which the passage of time and the constitutional evolution of the Commonwealth had rendered demonstrably out of date.

Canada has been a major influence in the process of decolonization by the United Kingdom. It is intolerable that fifty years after the Statute of Westminster was passed and more than a century after Canada, which has been a major partner in victories of two world wars and possesses immense economic strength and political experience, became a self-governing country, the United Kingdom Parliament should become involved in arbitrating on issues which concern only the domestic relationships within the Canadian Federation. It is certainly not for us to judge whether a Bill of Rights is adequate or what should be the division of powers between the Government in Ottawa and those of the *Provinces.*

In 1936 Mr Mackenzie King called a meeting of Prime Ministers to work out methods whereby Canada might alter her Constitution without reference to the United Kingdom. In 1937 Mr Bennett's "new deal" legislation was declared *ultra vires* by the courts because it conflicted with the provisions of section 7 of the Statute of Westminster, although the extension of the powers of the Federal Government appeared to many here and in Canada both desirable and inevitable. It is astounding that more than forty years have elapsed before this issue *became alive again.*

There is now a danger that the British Parliament will be sucked into a major Canadian constitutional controversy, with bitter party and provincial undertones, *which is en*tirely domestic to Canada and which, by no stretch of the imagination, is it obliged or entitled to resolve.

I can understand, though not agree with, the views of the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee, required to comment on a matter which excites its members' interest and, from *their point of* view, has the advantage of being of a somewhat remote and academic character. But it is not the job of the House of Commons of the United *Kingdom or of the British House* of Lords to decide an issue which is essentially a matter for decision by the Parliament and people of Canada.

*Her Majesty's Government in Lon*don should now advise her Majesty's Government in Ottawa that it intends to repeal the last evidence of Canada's colonial status—section 7 *of the Statute of Westminster*—before the end of this session of Parliament.

If by that time the present constitutional controversy has been re*solved in Canada,* so *much* the better. If not, it will be for the Canadian Parliament, designed in 1867 to reproduce on the other side of the Atlantic exactly the character and *processes of the Parliament* at Westminster, to take whatever decision the Canadian nation may in its wisdom decide.

Yours sincerely,
ALPORT.
House of Lords.
March 2.

Civil servants' demands

From Mr Nicholas Cooper and others

Sir, We write as civil servants who are extremely uneasy both about taking industrial action and about the impression that has gained currency: that we are taking such *action in protest against an* inadequate pay offer. We recognize that in other areas pay settlements have not been high, that unemployment is rising, that no employer's pocket *is bottomless and that civil servants* have obligations beyond those to their masters.

It is in part the fault of the Civil Service unions that such impressions are current. As members of the Institute of Professional Civil Servants we were asked to support a composite motion that censured the suppression of the Pay Research Unit's finding and the unilateral suspension of its proceedings, supported a 15 per cent pay claim and authorized the executive of the union to participate, if necessary, in a campaign of industrial action.

Few civil servants that we have spoken with would be willing to strike for a 15 per cent pay claim on its own. If this motion gained wide support from members, it is because the Government leaves us no choice. It has gone back on its commitment to salary determination by Pay Research. Professor Sir Max Beloff (letter, March 2) accuses us of "threatening . . . the foundations of an ordered and civilized community" and of "violating the code of conduct that has governed the Civil Service". Professor Beloff apparently requires a higher standard of responsibility from employees than from their masters.

If the procedures agreed to by both sides show civil servants to be owed more than the Government can afford to pay, the Government should (like any other good employer) take the staff into its confidence and explain fully why PRU recommendations cannot be implemented. We should then have a basis for negotiation both on present pay and on future procedures.

Thirteen other close colleagues read this letter and are willing to endorse its views.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS COOPER,
EDMUND GRAY,
GLENYS POPPER,
130 Kenilworth Court,
Lower Richmond Road, SW15.
March 4.

Swoop on the provinces?

From the Managing Director of Associated Newspapers

Sir, Your correspondent, Lady Elton (letters, March 3), must have *auditory senses* of a very unusual kind if, from the rural charms of Clevedon Court, Somerset, she can hear "the sound of battle in Fleet Street" concerning the proposals by Associated Newspapers to take full ownership of the *Bristol Evening Post* and the *Western Daily Press.*

What on earth have these proposals to do with Fleet Street? Certainly this Group has a national daily newspaper, the *Daily Mail,* and hopes to have an equally successful national Sunday in due course. Our regional newspapers have always been separate from the nationals and not least among the achievements of this policy has been the preservation of local independence. Some local newspapers might not otherwise now exist. One would have hoped that Lady Elton would have been aware of this, since in 1977 she was a party to the sale of the *Clevedon Mercury* to the *Bristol Evening Post,* in which we had at that time a "controlling" interest.

To correct a further inaccuracy, the papers at Plymouth, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Torquay and Exeter which she refers to were either owned by the Associated Newspapers Group or by the Harmsworth family long before the 1949 Royal Commission and have not, therefore, since "fallen" to the Associated Newspapers Group.

The keystone of our policy as publishers of successful regional newspapers is that local managements have no interests to serve other than those of their readers and communities, because we recognize that to be a newspaper's first and only proper task. It happens also to be good for the staff to work in such an environment of stability and security.

Perhaps Lady Elton would care to confirm the truth of all this by talking to her colleague, Mr Andrew Breach, Chairman of the *Bristol Evening Post.*

Yours faithfully,
R. M. SHIELDS,
Associated Newspapers Group Limited,
Carmelite House, EC4.

Historic buildings

From Mr Tom Greeves

Sir, Can anyone blame the Chinese for demolishing their embassy buildings in Portland Place, when they have only to look at this once noble street and reflect on the damage done at the hands of successive generations of British architects and their clients, including the RIBA?

As a *schoolboy in the early* thirties, intent on an architectural career, but with a love of London at a time when large chunks of Georgian London were disappearing every year, I watched with horrified amazement the destruction of yet another bit of Portland Place, to build the institute's new headquarters.

Lest it be argued that this was 50 years ago, and that we know better now, I would draw attention to what I understand is the impending *demolition by Westminster Council* of 20 *listed* Georgian houses in Great Titchfield Street nearby, including the house of the great sculptor and illustrator, John Flaxman.

It is surely ironical that, while the minister is adding to the list buildings of more recent date, those at the other end of the time-scale *are being gradually destroyed.* Is a listed building only to be allowed to survive at the whim of a private developer, or a local authority?

Yours faithfully,
TOM GREEVES,
12 Newton Grove,
Bedford Park, W4.

From Mr Bernard Kaukas

Sir, As one who is concerned to come to reasonable terms with the problems posed by our great legacy of historic railway buildings, I note with interest the appeal (letter, February 23) by perhaps the most distinguished person in the world of conservation and restoration—Dr Bernard M. Feilden, Director of the International Centre for the Study of Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM).

The present annual rate of government support to this body is £28,000 and this has just been withdrawn. Recently we were obliged *to spend over £250,000 on refurbish*ing some small station buildings which are not required by us and are not occupied. Before they had been listed the original estimate for demolishing parts of the buildings and refurbishing the rest was of the order of £30,000. The greatly increased expenditure can be laid entirely at the door of a small local preservation society which was successful in persuading the Department of the Environment to list the building. In the case of *buildings of significant importance* in architectural or historic terms such expenditure can, of course, be properly justified because of the need to pass on our national architectural heritage to future generations. But it is hardly justified in the case of buildings of only marginal interest locally to a few people, when the excessive costs to our hard-pressed business are not matched by national or local contributions. The excess sum just referred to is equal to our national *contribution to ICCROM* for the next eight years.

Is it reasonable to ask that there should be a national clearing house for our priorities in the field of conservation and preservation, especially during the present period of deep recession?

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KAUKAS,
British Railways Board,
222 Marylebone Road, NW1.

Jordan opposition to the 'option'

From the Ambassador of Jordan

Sir, Having read Christopher Walker's five articles regarding the occupied West Bank (especially the one headed "How the Jordanian option might just work"—February 23), one cannot help but feel the *utmost concern* regarding events and "facts" being created in the occupied Arab territories. Despite the universal condemnation of the Israeli settlement and colonization *policy in the occupied Arab terri*tories, your correspondent reports the feverish, frantic rush by the Israeli government to plant additional settlements.

He has correctly articulated the desire of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories "*for a* distinct Palestinian *state*", and concluded rightly that support for the *Palestinian Liberation Organization* "is unmistakably at every level of the West Bank society".

His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian Government have empha*sized on numerous occasions their* support of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to the establishment of a Palestinian state on their soil under *the leadership of the Palestinian* Liberation Organization, their sole legitimate representative.

Jordan has not only rejected but exposed the so-called "Jordanian *option*" *for what it really* is, ie, a scheme by the Israeli Labour Party to perpetuate and consolidate the military occupation.

The Palestinian people do not *desire or envisage their state except* in Palestine. The Jordanian people cannot and will not replace the Palestinian people. Jordan will not be drawn in any way to assume res*ponsibilities designed to alter or* circumvent the centrality of the Palestinian people

Any plan or policy that does not take into consideration these facts *will not lead to the attainment of* a just and acceptable peace and will have adverse and far-reaching consequences on the stability of the region and the peace of the world.

Yours faithfully,
IBRAHIM IZZIDDIN,
Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan,
6 Upper Phillimore Gardens, W8.
March 2.

Pessimism on defence

From Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Gretton (retd)

Sir, May I comment on one aspect of current defence policy? I have listened to very senior army officers expressing, on television, the most defeatist views on operations in Germany after an attack from behind the iron curtain. They appear to believe that after two or three days, nuclear weapons will be needed. After that the holocaust will, I believe, come.

When studying and teaching at various defence *academies, I learnt* that a successful land offensive must have a superiority of at least four to one. The advantages are all with the defence. BAOR has had *30 years to get to know the ground* and to make plans. In addition, we have now a strong German army on our side. The Germans have shown in World War Two, especially *in Italy, that they were unequalled in* defence.

Surely our military leaders should show a more robust view of the future to the troops. I wonder if *it looks so easy from the Kremlin.*

I must confess that my argument is not unconnected with recent public claims that a strong Navy is no longer needed because a Euro*pean war would only last a few days* and reinforcement and supply from across the Atlantic would not be required. But this admission, I submit, does not invalidate my views.

Yours faithfully,
P. W. GRETTON,
29 Northmoor Road,
Oxford.
March 2.

West Indies tour questions

From Mr J. M. Stephenson

Sir, There is no inconsistency between support of the boycott of the Moscow Olympics and opposition to the recent events in Guyana, and I am happy to come out in the open and say so (Dr Butt, letter, March 3).

Sport becomes inevitably involved with politics when a team purporting to represent a nation visits *another;* in doing so, it is seen by the politicians of each country to give implied approval to the regime of the other.

For this reason, no team repre*senting Great Britain* or any of its component nations should visit either South Africa or the Soviet Union. But neither this general principle nor the Gleneagles agreement can extend to individuals who choose to visit either country in pursuance of that other human right—to earn one's living by any lawful means in any country, subject to the laws of that country, and not to be victimised for so doing.

Perhaps the Government of Guyana would do well to consider whether a constitution which proposes friendship with every country "except South Africa" does not reflect a racial hatred no less abhorrent to men of reason and compassion than apartheid itself.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. STEPHENSON,
Rose Cottage Flat,
Upper House Lane,
Shamley Green,
Guildford,
Surrey.
March 3.

Wizards that were

From Mr A. M. Christie

Sir, I am surprised at the mystery made of the superlative "wizard" in Philip Howard's article today (February 23). As a schoolboy aeroplane-fancier some 50 years ago I would have been in no doubt about its origin. The Westland Wizard was by far the most glamorous aircraft of its day and (so far as at least one schoolboy was concerned) stole the show at a Hendon RAF display in 1930 or thereabouts.

Yours truly,
A. M. CHRISTIE,
48 Thame Road,
Warborough, Oxfordshire.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 4: The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Birmingham New Street Station in the Royal Train this morning and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the West Midlands (the Earl of Aylesford).

His Royal Highness, as President of the National Playing Fields Association, visited the Association's Resource Centre at Ward End Park and opened the Granville Street Development of the Trident Housing Society (Chairman, Mr K. Brooksbank) in Birmingham.

The Duke of Edinburgh later visited Unalco Ltd (Managing Director, Mr M. Holman) at their installation in the Maybrook Industrial Estate, Brownhills, Walsall and afterwards toured the premises of Leigh Interests Ltd (Chairman, Mrs J. Agar).

This afternoon His Royal Highness visited the Empire Works of Polymeric Treatments Ltd, opened the Sealosafe Oil Recovery Plant, and subsequently toured Barnett and Beddows Brickworks.

The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Major John Cargin, returned to London in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, attended by Major John Winter, arrived at St Germans Station in the Royal Train this morning to visit Duchy property in Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Dorset.

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 4: The Duke of Gloucester today attended the ICI Wheatrace Conference and presented prizes to the winners, at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent will open the "Retirement Festival" of the Greater London Association for Pre-Retirement at the Piccadilly Hotel, London, on April 23.

A memorial service for Dr Douglas McAlpine will be held at the Middlesex Hospital at 1.00 pm on Friday, March 27. Another service will be held for Dr and Mrs Douglas McAlpine at Marnhull Parish Church, Dorset, at 3.00 pm on Sunday, March 29.

Mr Harold Macmillan, OM, regrets that he was unable to attend the service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Malcolm MacDonald, OM, held on March 3, because of absence abroad.

Mrs Leigh Hatts gave birth to a son in St. Thomas' Hospital yesterday.

Birthdays today

Sir David Cairns, 79; the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, 54; Sir Frank Figgures, 71; Professor C. P. Fitzgerald, 79; Mr Rex Harrison, 73; Archbishop Bruno Heim, 70; Lord Kilmany, 76; Major-General Sir Denzil Macarthur-Onslow, 77; Sir John Marshall, 69; Mr Barry Tuckwell, 50; Vice-Admiral Sir Peveril William-Powlett, 83.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. J. Blakeborough, RN and Miss H. J. Holden
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Major and Mrs J. Blakeborough, of Brentwood, Essex, and Judy, elder daughter of Mr R. G. Holden, of Bedford, and the late Mrs Holden.

Mr S. H. Coghlan and Miss M. C. Richards
The engagement is announced between Stuart, younger son of Mrs H. H. Coghlan, of Auckland, New Zealand, and the late Mr H. F. Coghlan, and Meg, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. W. Richards, of West Kirby, Wirral.

Mr T. S. R. Eckersley and Miss B. Chu
The marriage is announced and will take place in May, between Timothy, youngest son of the late T. H. Eckersley and Mrs Penelope Eckersley, of 72 Westbourne Park Road, London, and Barbara, elder daughter of Professor C. K. Chu, of Chappaqua, New York, and Mrs Elizabeth Bainbridge, of Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

Mr G. V. Hillier and Miss S. C. Heelis
The engagement is announced between Guy, eldest son of Mr Jonathan Hillier, of Cornwall Gardens, London, SW7, and Mrs Susan Holland, of Toronto, Canada, and Sarah, daughter of Mr Robert Heelis, of Willington, Derbyshire, and the late Mrs Elizabeth Boudard.

Mr T. H. G. Lyle and Miss S. J. Carter
The engagement is announced between Timothy, elder son of the late Mr C. W. Lyle and Mrs Lyle, of Kenilworth Court, Putney, and Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Carter, of Fairbourne, Crowhurst, Sussex.

Mr W. H. A. Colville and Miss S-A. L. Sears
The engagement is announced between William, younger son of the late Captain A. Colville and of Mrs A. Colville, formerly of of Rahoy, Argyll, and Sally-Anne, youngest daughter of Captain and Mrs J. R. D. Sears, of Wickselm, Berkeley, Gloucestershire.

Mr R. A. Munday and Miss C. M. Handley-Derry
The engagement is announced between Richard Anthony, elder son of Mr and Mrs G. T. Munday, of 12 Hampton Dene Road, Hereford and Claire Margaret, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs L. Handley-Derry, of 50 Hornton Street, W8.

Marriages

Mr J. D. Sells and Mrs S. J. W. Scott
The marriage took place in Cambridge on February 28, 1981, between Mr James Sells, youngest son of Sir David and Lady Sells, and Mrs Susan Scott, daughter of Mr C. R. Driver and Mrs A. F. Driver.

Mr J. P. MacHale and Miss M. A. Dunbar-Nasmith
The marriage took place on Saturday, February 28, at Holy Trinity Church, Elgin, between Mr Joseph MacHale and Miss Mary Ann Dunbar-Nasmith. Provost Arthur Wheatley officiated, assisted by Father Robert McDonald and the Rev John Paul.

The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by Miss Jane and Miss Clare MacHale. Mr Mark Clarfelt was best man.

Mr C. A. Perry and Miss P. D. E. Finney
The marriage took place last Saturday at St Etheldreda's, Ely Place, between Mr Christopher Perry, son of Mr and Mrs William Perry, of Whitby, Yorkshire, and Miss Patricia Finney, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jarlath Finney, of Hampstead Garden Suburb, London. Father Christopher Cunningham officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and her sister, Victoria Finney, attended her. Mr Charles Williams was best man. A reception was held at Gray's Inn Hall.

Luncheons

HM Government
Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon held at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of the Finnish Foreign Minister, Mr P. Väyrynen. The Ambassador of Finland was among those present.

HM Government
The Hon Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel in honour of members of the Royal Society.

Primrose League
Lord Home of the Hirsel, Grand Master of the Primrose League, accompanied by Lady Home, was the guest speaker at a luncheon given by the Ealing branch of the Primrose League at the Carnarvon Hotel, Ealing Common, yesterday. Mr Ronald Politeyan, branch ruling councillor, accompanied by Mrs Politeyan, presided.

The other speakers were Sir George Young, MP, Mr Harry Greenway, MP, Sir Malby Crofton, Mr John Dobson and Mr Robin Wheatley.

Private Patients Plan
The Chairman of Private Patients Plan and directors of the board were hosts at a luncheon held at the Royal College of Physicians yesterday. The guests were: Sir Peter Gadsden, Mr Timothy Raison, MP, and Sir Derek Rayner.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Sir Nigel Fisher, MP, deputy chairman of the United Kingdom branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, joint honorary treasurer, were hosts at a luncheon given by the executive committee at the House of Commons yesterday in honour of the Commonwealth parliamentarians attending the 1981 parliamentary seminar at Westminster.

Dinners

HM Government
Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade, was host at a dinner held last night at Lancaster House in honour of Mr A. Margaritescu, Minister State Secretary at the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Trade.

GLC
The chairman of the GLC and Mrs Brook-Partridge entertained the following guests at dinner at the Waterside Restaurant after a concert held at the Festival Hall yesterday:
Lord and Lady Maclean, the Dean of St Paul's and Mrs Webster, Mrs Clare Rezem and Mr John Putnam.

Society of Apothecaries of London
Mr Guy Blackburn, Master of the Society of Apothecaries of London, and Dr T. D. Whitter, Junior Warden, entertained the following guests at a yeomanry dinner held at Apothecaries' Hall yesterday.
Sir Reginald Murley, Dr D. P. Tominey, Professor Sir John Walton, Dr E. Gray-Turner, Professor N. R. Ashton, Professor J. A. Dudgeon, Mr W. F. W. Southwood, Mr R. B. Smith, Dr J. F. Fisher, Mr R. Coats, Colonel F. G. Neild, Professor A. Frohlich, Colonel E. P. W. Talford, and the Deans of King's College Hospital Medical School, the London Hospital Medical College, The Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, the Medical College of St Bartholomew's Hospital, St George's Hospital Medical School, St Thomas's Hospital Medical School and St Mary's Hospital Medical School.

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
Professor J. O. L. King, president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, assisted by the officers of the college, was host at a dinner held at the college yesterday.

Cornhill Club
The Lord President, Lord Soames, was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the Cornhill Club, at the Connaught Rooms yesterday to celebrate its fiftieth anniversary. Mr James S. Chester was in the chair and the other speakers were Mr B. M. P. Thompson-McCausland and Mr P. D. Willison. A presentation was made to Mr Leonard C. Mather, president of the club.

Timber Trade Federation
Mr A. H. A. Dibbs, Deputy Chairman of the National Westminster Bank, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Timber Trade Federation held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr Robin Howard, president of the federation, was in the chair. Others present included: The Ambassadors of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Portugal and the High Commissioners for Canada, Ghana and Malaysia.

Celebrating history of the Thames

By Our Theatre Reporter

The Thames at Windsor will be taken over on four nights this summer by a large-scale theatrical production which aims to portray the history of the river.

Thames Heritage will be presented from July 8 to 11, with seats for 4,000 people on the Brocas, an ancient water meadow opposite Windsor Castle. The action will take place on a set at the river's edge, on the river itself, on islands near by and on the opposite bank under the castle walls.

The show will be narrated by Celia Johnson, Robert Hardy and Bernard Horsfall, and will include scenes representing the ancient Britons in coracles, the successive invasions by Romans, Normans and Vikings, Magna Charta, Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, Victoria and Albert, and a parade of the little ships from Dunkirk.

More than fifty boats will be involved and between 200 and 300 actors and actresses, mostly amateurs.

The production, which may become an annual event, is being staged by the Thames Heritage Trust, which was founded in 1979 to raise funds to promote the protection, conservation and enhancement of the river.

It is particularly concerned to prevent the erosion of river banks and islands, to counter the neglect of towpaths and waterside walkways and to take action against the pollution of the waters by oil and rubbish.

Among its projects is an educational centre at Kingston upon Thames which would provide a library, lecture rooms, space for educational projects and exhibitions and a headquarters for the trust.

Queen to attend meeting in Melbourne

More details of the Queen's month-long tour of Australia, New Zealand and Sri Lanka were announced yesterday by Buckingham Palace.

She will visit Australia from September 26 to October 12, for the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Melbourne, before spending eight days in New Zealand with the Duke of Edinburgh. The Queen and the Duke will pay a state visit to Sri Lanka from October 21 to 25.

The Palace also announced that Princess Anne will not, after all, present the British Academy Awards on March 22. The ceremony is less than eight weeks before the date her second baby is expected.

Nightingales thrive

Ornithologists had recorded 850 pairs of nightingales in Sussex, an increase of 25 per cent on the last count in 1976, Dr John Newnham, of Worthing, who organized the census for the Sussex Ornithological Society, said yesterday.

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Bravery award: Mr Ronald Sargent, a sub-postmaster, of Buscot, Oxfordshire, who was presented yesterday with a £150 cheque for his bravery during a raid on his sub-post-office. Mr Sargent, aged 61, tackled a gunman and was beaten after refusing to let him go. As the two raiders escaped on a motor cycle, Mr Sargent ran into its path to try to stop them. The cheque was presented by Mr Charles Beauchamp, managing director of postal services.

Savoy wedding ball

To continue its established tradition of celebrating royal events, the Savoy hotel will hold a gala ball on the evening of July 29, 1981, on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer. Further details will be published in due course but requests for tickets, which will be strictly limited, may be made to the Press Office, the Savoy Hotel, London, WC2. (Telephone 01-836 4343.)

Royal Warrant Holders Association

The following have been elected officers of the Royal Warrant Holders Association for the ensuing year: President, Mr David Part; Vice-President, Mr Peter Smith; Hon Treasurer, Mr Edward Rayne.

Poulters' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Poulters' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr L. E. Muckett; Upper Warden, Mr C. A. Wiard; Renter Warden, Mr M. G. Sproat.

£250,000 winner

The winning number in the monthly £250,000 Premium Savings Bond prize draw is 3FL 001087. The winner lives in the London Borough of Harrow.

Orchestra trust fund

A trust has been formed by the Northern Sinfonia Orchestra to raise £250,000 to develop its work.

Correction

Miss Margaret Lockwood, the actress, received the insignia of the CBE, not the OBE as stated in a picture caption yesterday.

A Burne-Jones 'Pomona' tapestry sold for £9,000

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The Victoria and Albert Museum paid £9,000 (estimate £10,000-£15,000) yesterday for a tapestry entitled "Pomona" designed by Burne-Jones and woven by the Merton Abbey Tapestry Works in 1899. The artist designed two tapestries of "Pomona" and "Flora" as a pair, and they were first woven in 1891. Five small versions of the designs were woven at Merton Abbey from 1896 onwards. This is one of the smaller ones, measuring 66in by 39in.

The museum said yesterday that the tapestry was of fine quality and in particularly good condition. Its special attraction, however, was its small size, as space in the primary galleries is short.

Two other Merton Abbey tapestries for which Sotheby's had high hopes failed to sell. A Burne-Jones "Flora" tapestry (not the companion to the V & A's purchase) was unsold at £4,800 (estimate £8,000-£12,000) and "The Blindfolding of Truth", a vast tapestry (96in by 108in) designed by John Byam Shaw in 1909, was unsold at £15,000 (estimate £25,000-£45,000).

Despite the failure of those potential money spinners, the burgeoning interest in textiles as a collecting field was very apparent. A group of mid-eighteenth-century ladies' hats was a flimsy and more than unusual offering which stimulated considerable museum interest. Manchester City Art Gallery paid £760 (estimate £220-£400) for a broad-rimmed feather hat lined with shell-pink silk. Five other hats, dating from the same period and variously constructed in straw, horsehair and silk, fetched between £380 and £760; all had been estimated in the £200-£400 range.

Oriental embroidered textiles were in strong demand, with a brilliant yellow, gauze, 12-symbol dragon robe of the mid-nineteenth century selling at £1,300 (estimate £600-£1,000). An eighteenth-century Kashmir Pashmina woven shawl designed with sprays of flowers took the auctioneers by surprise, making £2,400 (estimate £150-£300); the more familiar nineteenth-century ones sold much in line with estimates; a nice example reached £400 (estimate £200-£400).

Modernity did not deter bidders. The Victoria and Albert Museum bought two pairs of French 1950s sunglasses with elaborate ornamental surrounds at £80 and £120 (estimate £80-£160 each) and a brown felt stetson worn by J.R. in the television series, *Dallas*, attracted a bid of £190 (estimate £200-£300).

In Glendining's sale of English coins a specimen set of Victorian 1839 coins, the five pounds with the much loved "Una and the Lion" reverse, sold for £24,000 (estimate £16,000) to Duggan, a dealer from Blackburn.

Two particularly attractive and rare coins ran to prices beyond the auctioneers' expectations: a hammered fifth issue Elizabeth I sovereign of thirty shillings made £5,600 (estimate £3,800) and a James I Rose Ryal of thirty shillings made £7,600 (estimate £4,000).

At Phillips micro-photography entered the collecting arena. Three slides, each one millimetre square, were offered as one lot; they depicted a page of *The Times* from 1869, the Lord's Prayer and a £1,000 note. The price for those tiny symbols of God and mammon was £35.

Latest wills

Lord Godber of Willington, of Willington, Bedfordshire, Conservative MP for Grantham 1951-79 and Minister of Agriculture 1961-63, left estate valued at £187,550 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Booth, Mr James Arthur, of Glossop, Derbyshire £238,137
Bowditch, Mr John Henry Barrett, of North Bowood, Bridport, Dorset £340,587
Connell, Mrs Lettice Tyringham, of Paddington, London .. £214,114
Frank, Miss Annie, of Kirbymoorside, North Yorkshire .. £333,060
Gould, Mrs Mary Finlay, of Bomere Heath, Shrewsbury £356,962
Jarvis, Mr William Sutton, of Penzance, fish merchant £211,906
Kibble, Mr Francis William John, of Sharnford, Leicester £167,220
Smith, Mr Harri, of Wilmslow, Cheshire, local director of Barclays Bank £141,226

Science report

Medicine: Growing skin in a test tube

From Clive Cookson, *of The Times Higher Education Supplement*

Washington

Last week Dr Eugene Bell, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), grafted a small patch of substitute skin, grown in a test tube from his own cells, on to his arm. It was the first laboratory transplant of human "skin-equivalent", he said.

Dr Bell's experiment extends to mankind a procedure which he and three colleagues from MIT and the Shriners Burns Institute in Boston have just tested successfully on laboratory rats. They describe it in this week's *Science*.

The Massachusetts scientists do not want to arouse premature excitement about the technique because, as they point out, its clinical applications have not yet been tested. But it obviously has great potential for treating burn victims.

Starting with a few of the patient's skin cells, doctors could make a permanent living cover for their wounds, which would look like normal skin.

Other researchers are working on skin substitutes but none is yet in general use. At present doctors have to transplant segments of the patient's own skin, from a less visible or important part of the body, to cover burnt tissue; if the burns are extensive there may not be enough undamaged skin to use, and removing large areas of skin is itself a traumatic process.

Skin from other people or animals will be rejected, and coverings made from artificial materials must eventually be replaced with the patient's own skin.

At a different hospital in Boston, Bent Brigham, doctors are developing another promising approach. They reported in the *Lancet* preliminary success in using growth factor obtained from mice to speed up the growth of skin in a cell culture.

Dr Bell and his colleagues start making skin-equivalent, as they call it, by cultivating fibroblast cells, the connective tissue cells that make up the inner layer of skin, from a small sample of skin taken from the intended recipient of the graft.

When the fibroblasts have multiplied in a nutrient medium, they are collected and added to a new solution containing collagen, the main protein component of skin, as well as blood serum and other nutrients. Gradually the collagen and fibroblasts form a fibrous tissue similar to the bottom layer of natural skin.

The skin-equivalent is completed by taking epidermal (outer skin) cells from the same donor and sprinkling them on to the new tissue. They grow rapidly to cover it with a top layer, also like natural skin. Finally the tissue is sewn on to the donor, covering an open wound.

The Massachusetts researchers transplanted skin-equivalent on to 52 rats, covering up to 15 per cent of their bodies. They have been in place for more than a year and none has been rejected. Eighty per cent of the grafts retained their original size, completely preventing the disfiguring shrinkage that otherwise occurs as scar tissue forms over wounds.

The main difference from real skin is that skin-equivalent lacks hair follicles and sebacious glands. It grows tiny blood vessels, and after it has been in place for a few months has a cell structure close to the real thing.

Skin-equivalent can be grown in any size or shape from a small sample of tissue from the donor. It is too soon to say how fast human skin-equivalent could be cultivated, but a conservative preliminary estimate is that one square foot would take less than a month. If the technique is applied to burn victims their wounds will need to be covered with artificial material until their own skin-equivalent is ready.

Source: *Science* (Vol 211, pages 1052-1054, March 6, 1981).

OBITUARY

DR MARTYN LLOYD-JONES

Former Minister of Westminster Chapel

Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones, the last of a long line of great Welsh preachers, died on St David's Day at the age of 81. For over 20 years, until he retired in 1968 he preached 45 minute sermons to congregations of between 1,500 and 2,000 in Westminster Chapel, London where he had been minister from 1943. He had the rare combination of compelling logic and vivid enlightenment and was in the tradition of the Calvinistic Methodists, combining clear doctrine with warm personal application.

Martyn Lloyd-Jones studied medicine at Barts and, after taking his doctorate, became assistant to Lord Horder. But at 27 he gave up this prospect of a brilliant medical career to become a Minister in Port Talbot. There and at Westminster Chapel, to which he moved in 1938, his exact medical training disciplined his thinking and teaching and helped him to deal with those pastoral problems on the frontier between the physical and the spiritual. He relied little on oratory as such but moved his audience more by reasoned statement.

All kinds of people came to hear him at Westminster Chapel, senior civil servants, actors, the down and out, the Chinese Church and always a great number of students, with many from overseas, includi[ng] the present President of Ken[ya]. And there was always a stea[dy] stream of converts to [the] Christian faith.

Lloyd-Jones had a profou[nd] effect on the Evangelical wi[ng] of the church. As preside[nt] during the war, of the Int[er-]Varsity Fellowship, he help[ed] to lay the foundation of [the] intellectual and theologic[al] strength which, with their eva[n]gelistic enthusiasm, has ma[de] the Christian Unions the large[st] voluntary students society [in] most British universities. [He] was also a founder and fi[rst] chairman on the Executive Co[m]mittee of the Internation[al] Fellowship of Evangelical St[u]dents to which Christian stude[nt] movements in 70 countries a[re] now affiliated.

Until last year, he chaired [a] monthly minister's fratern[al] and through this, through [his] preaching in Britain and ov[er]seas, his many books and [his] wise personal advice and gu[id]ance, he was a respected a[nd] well-loved Christian leader w[ho] will be greatly missed.

He married, in 1927, Beth[an] Phillips who survives him wi[th] two daughters, Elizabeth a[nd] Ann, one of whom, Elizabet[h] married, in 1954, Sir Fr[ed] Catherwood, European MP f[or] Cambridgeshire and Wellir[ng]borough.

MISS MAY FOUNTAIN

Miss May Fountain, Principal of Chelsea College of Physical Education from 1929 to 1950, died on February 6, at the age of 92. She was born on May 3, 1888, the fifth daughter of Joseph Septimus Fountain and his wife Margaret (née Allan), of Greenwich.

Educated there at a private school, it was probably the proximity of Dartford, the first of the Physical Training Colleges for Women (founded in 1885), which gave her the idea of taking up this then very unusual career. Typically, she looked about, and found the courses available in the younger Chelsea, founded in 1898, attractive.

Her training lasted from 1906-1908. It is amusing to recall that her father stipulated that she had to have lodgings as close as possible to the polytechnic, in which the College functioned, and never to go out unless accompanied by a maid. She kept this promise, even to cross from Glebe Place, traversing the horse-bus-ridden King's Road to arrive a couple of hundred yards away in Manresa Road!

Tall, slim, quiet and modest, May Fountain early displayed initiative in seeking to enlarge her professional horizons. She lectured for two years in the Teachers' Training College at Truro, and at the same time took the qualifying examinations of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics. After this she spent two years at the heart of the world of gymnastics—the Royal Central Gymnastic Institute in Stockholm, where she concentrated on studying their methods of training teachers. She became proficient in the Swedish language, and translated a number of difficult technical works.

Joining the staff of her own college in 1912, May Fountain travelled constantly in vacations and on sabbatical leaves to study the varied methods being developed abroad. Thanks to such contacts she became in demand to serve on committees so numerous that they could never be listed. Lecturing mainly on anatomy and theory of movement, she succeeded the College's founder, Dorette Wilke, in 1929.

Warmly supported by her staff, May Fountain proceeded to deepen and open the training offered. She was largely instrumental in getting London University to set up a diploma for students in three-years' colleges in the theory and practice of physical education. She also inaugurated a one-year course for teachers from training colleges.

She admired the supple, rhythmic work for women emanating from Finland, b[ut] found greater satisfaction [in] the "natural" theories of bo[dy] weight, gravity, extension a[nd] impetus to be found in wh[at] became known as "Austri[an] Gymnastics". Although she d[id] not dispense with the tra[di]tional Swedish metho[ds] Chelsea students learned [to] assimilate both, and becar[ne] less dependent on "isms" th[an] is common.

Miss Fountain's charact[er] was noteworthy for ext[ra]ordinary "rightness": h[er] nature, for kindness a[nd] generosity. These person[al] qualities earned her the co[l]laboration of colleagues, and [it] is to such trust in her jud[g]ment that the college owes [its] continued existence today. [At] the outbreak of war in 1939 [it] looked as if it would simp[ly] have to disintegrate: the buil[d]ing was scheduled for the u[se] of the ARP.

It was May Fountain who, [in] the space of no more than thr[ee] weeks, explored Wales, fou[nd] the Grand Hotel at Borth, pe[r]suaded the proprietor to run [it] for the college instead of or [just] for the summer season, pe[r]suaded the Ministry of Educ[a]tion and the LCC to agree—[in] which effort she was nob[ly] backed up by Dr Harlow, pri[n]cipal of the Polytechnic, wh[o] rushed to Wales with h[er] despite all his other problem[s]. Having settled the essenti[al] details, and seen the college equipment off in two buses wi[th] the seats taken out, she an[d] the vice-principal, Ruth Clar[k], personally wrote to eve[ry] student, giving them details [of] the new venue. Not one fail[ed] to arrive.

For nine years May Fou[n]tain adapted from running [a] day college in London to [a] boarding establishment [in] Wales: the students, who we[nt] out teaching practice classes [all] over each district, were sore[ly] missed when they left each [of] these places. In 1948, howeve[r], the college was moved to Ea[st]bourne. At this point, Mi[ss] Fountain would have liked [to] retire, but she stayed on to se[e] it safely established.

Retiring in 1950 to Cornwal[l] she never lost touch wi[th] Chelsea-in-Eastbourne, whic[h] she visited as recently as 197[?] when she was as keenly inte[r]ested as ever in the work [it] could demonstrate. She ha[d] belonged to the second wave o[f] pioneers in her profession, a[ll] of whom stood for the trainin[g] of teachers who would sprea[d] the excellence of their ideas [to] thousands of children i[n] schools, rather than to th[e] coaching of a few star pe[r]formers.

The generations of student[s] yet to be trained at "Chelsea" will be the result of her goo[d] work, which she will not see.

District council to buy historic barn

From Our Correspondent
Colchester

After more than a decade of wrangling, the future of an ancient barn has been assured after the promise of an estimated £250,000 to buy and restore the crumbling structure.

The Grange Barn, at Coggeshall, near Colchester, Essex was built at the time of the Crusades but the most recent battles have been waged over plans to save the building before it collapses.

The barn's owner, Mr Robert Cullen, a farmer, maintained that he could not comply with the terms of a restoration order, but five years ago he was refused permission to demolish it after a public inquiry.

Since then conservationists in the village have been trying to get the tithe barn restored. They say it is the oldest building of its kind in Europe.

Braintree District Council has come to the rescue with a compulsory purchase order, and the barn together with land acquired for access is expected to be handed over to a locally based fund-raising committee. Another public inquiry to determine compensation claims is likely.

Today's engagements

The Queen attends reception give[n] by Chief Constables' Club Guildhall, 6.30.
The Duke of Edinburgh, as presi[]dent of the Royal Bath an[d] West and Southern Countie[s] Society, attends society's show ground, Shepton Mallet, 11.15; later, as honorary member o[f] Medical Society of London attends society's annual dinner in the Great Hall, St Bartholo[mew]'s Hospital, 7.45.
The Duke of Gloucester preside[s] at seminar of the British Consultants Bureau, Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, 10.15.
Lectures: Upholstery in eighteenth-century England, by Karin Walton, Victoria and Albert Museum, 6.30; Ernest Bevin, by Jack Jones, 5; Caste, class and modes of production, by Mrs Alice Thorner, 5, London School of Economics, Houghton Street; Mr Polly and the Apocalypse, by Professor Norman Mackenzie, Goldsmiths' College, Lewisham Way, New Cross, 7.
Exhibitions: Pop People, Photographers Gallery, 5 & 8 Great Newport Street, 11-7; Animal drawings and gouaches by Francis Carr, Fitzroy Gallery, 4 Windmill Street, off Charlotte Street, 11-6.
Chairman of the GLC receives Mr Paavo Väyrynen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Finland, County Hall, 10.45.

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, March 5, 1956

From Our Correspondent

Berlin, March 4.—Herr Ulbricht today gained the distinction of being the first satellite leader to disavow Stalin. He did so even more outspokenly than Mr Khrushchev and Mr Mikoyan in Moscow. In a two-page article in *Neues Deutschland* he said that Stalin could not be counted among the classics of Marxism because he had done considerable damage to the Soviet Communist Party and the Soviet state. Herr Ulbricht, unlike his Moscow mentors, did not avoid mentioning Stalin by name again and again. . . . By dealing frankly with such an unpleasant question the Moscow party congress had displayed its determination to restore Leninist party conduct and to do away with the excesses resulting from the personality cult.

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Good references essential.

Please write giving details of age, experience and references to

Box 2895 F, The Times.

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ITALY.—Lady doctor needs au-pair. Two children. 946 5728.

NORLAND NNEB seeks summer job, pref. overseas, free May, not necessary child care. Excellent refs. Box 2807 F, The Times.

SAN FRANCISCO. Experienced lady for minding two young children required.—01-[illegible] (evenings).

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL BILLS £1,400,000 bills issued 4.3.81 maturing 3.6.81 at 11.21 32% Applic. tot. £8,400,000 and there are £5,600,000 bls. outstanding.

STRATHCLYDE REGIONAL COUNCIL BILLS £4,000,000 bls. issued 4.3.81 maturing 3.6.81 at 11% applic. tot. £74,000,000 and there are £36,000,000 bls. outstanding.

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

WINCHESTER COLLEGE

The examination of candidates for

SCHOLARSHIPS, EXHIBITIONS AND NOMINATIONS

will begin at the College on Monday, 11 May. About 13 Scholarships and about 6 Exhibitions will be offered. If candidates of suitable quality present themselves up to two of the Scholarships will have a value equal to the entire full fee. The others will have a minimum value of nearly two thirds of the full fee. Exhibitions have a maximum value of one third of the full fee. Candidates must be under 14 on June 1 and at least 12 on September 1.

Entry forms, which must be returned by April 20, are obtainable from the Second Master, Winchester College, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 9NA.

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LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of TANREED Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 10th day of April, 1981, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Keith David Goodman FCA of 3-4 Bentinck Street, London, W1A 3BA, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 27th day of February, 1981.

K. D. GOODMAN, Liquidator

THE GREAT AMERICAN DISASTER Limited

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3-4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Monday, the 16th day of March, 1981 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 27th day of February, 1981.

P. GROSS, Director

DREAM STREET Limited. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of Dream Street Limited, will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3-4 Bentinck Street, London, W1A 3BA, on Thursday the 12th day of March 1981 at 2.00 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 24th day of February 1981.

A. CHATALOS, Director.

KATINA FASHIONS Limited. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of Katina Fashions Limited, will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situate at 3-4 Bentinck Street, London, W1A 3BA on Thursday the 12th day of March 1981 at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 24th day of February 1981.

A. CHATALOS, Director.

MONET OF LONDON Limited. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of Monet of London Limited will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situate at 3-4 Bentinck Street, London, W1A 3BA on Thursday the 12th day of March 1981 at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 24th day of February, 1981.

A. CHATALOS, Director

In the Matter of SQUARE DEAL SUPPLIES (TIMBER) Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

I, N. G. BHATIA of 149 Station Road, Sidcup, Kent was appointed LIQUIDATOR of Square Deal Supplies (Timber) Limited by an order of the High Court dated 23th June 1980.

All claims should be addressed to me.

N. G. BHATIA, Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of N. D. CLEMENT & ASSOCIATES Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 1st day of April, 1981, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and [illegible]

Dated this 26th day of February, 1981.

D. L. MORGAN, Liquidator

In the Matter of N. D. CLEMENT Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

[illegible]

D. L. MORGAN, Liquidator

GOSSIP Limited. [illegible]

Dated the 24th day of February, 1981.

A. CHATALOS, Director

CHATTERS SHIRT CO. Limited. [illegible]

Dated the 24th day of February 1981.

A. CHATALOS, Director

مكبرة من الأصل

The kid from Brooklyn

The Art of Maurice Sendak
By Selma G. Lanes
(The Bodley Head, £25)

All other Americans and most visitors from abroad are of one mind that New York is New York, and not much to do with *the rest of America*, but if there is one place even nearer Europe than Manhattan, it is Brooklyn.

Maurice Sendak, who was born there in 1928, and whose parents came from near Warsaw before the First World War, remembers feeling that you had not properly entered the United States at all until you had crossed the East River *into* Manhattan and plunged between the fabulous towers and windows to see a first-run movie having (even better) been taken out to eat. Brooklyn was just a *shtetl* from the plains of Poland after that. It was rarely dull, however, even at the time, or if it was, the dullness seemed interesting in retrospect. Like Rosie's story of how her grandmother had died that very morning:

And I believed Rosie—we all did. Then she went into a pantomime of what had happened in the early dawn hours when they heard furniture collapsing and mirrors breaking and this rather heavy woman gagging and choking, and rushing about. They hung her head out of the window. They gave her the Kiss of Life. All to no avail.

Now during the telling of this story, up the street comes the grandmother, two big shopping bags in hand, her carpet slippers flapping, and she goes up the steps cursing the kids violently in Italian, brushing them aside with her feet, waddling into the house. They all separated for her, then said "Tell us again, Rosie".

As an illustrator of children's books, Sendak is in a class by himself today, and one of the things that makes his work so distinctive is that, within it, a child's Brooklyn of the Thirties and the great graphic traditions of Europe meet. An increasingly rich and allusive achievement from *A Hole is to Dig (1952)* to *Outside Over There*, to be published this May, unfolds a landscape formed by sources ranging from Albrecht Dürer and Oliver Hardy to Philipp-Otto Runge, Phoenix Baking Soda, William Blake and Mickey Mouse. "Children's book illustrator" begs every question about the nature and range of Sendak's work, which in turn begs a good deal more about childhood itself, and whether there is any significant difference between it and the state conventionally *accepted for the* last two hundred and fifty years or so as being grown up.

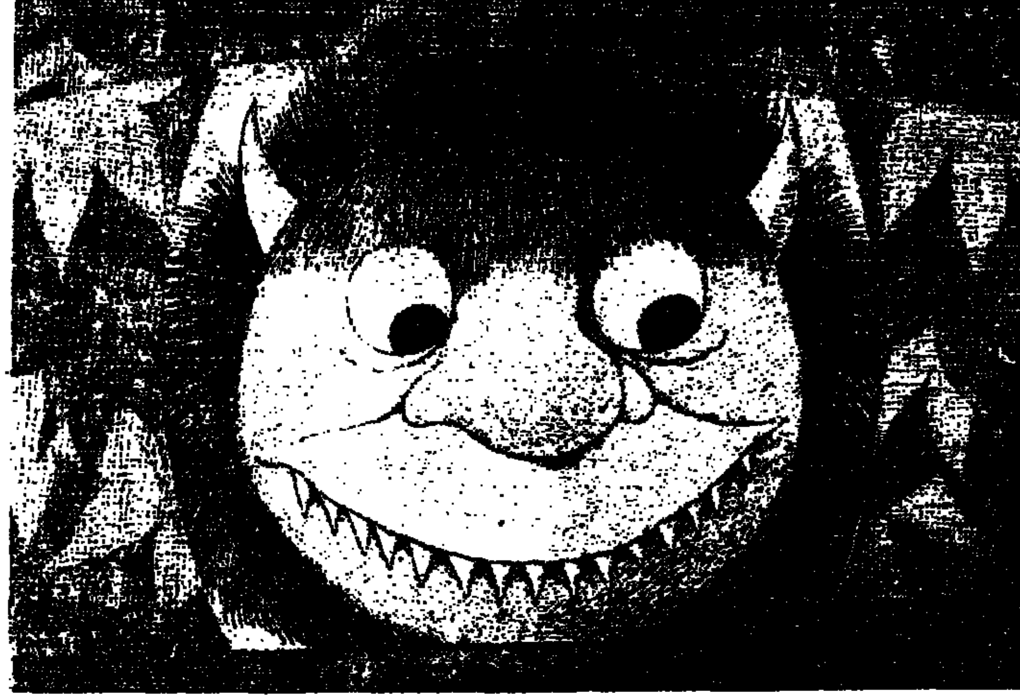
He is, by any definition, a contemporary master of the pen, ink and wash—an exhibition at the Ashmolean acknowledged as much—and he uses a dazzling classical technique, largely self-acquired from the study of artists like Bewick, Rowlandson, Cruikshank, Caldecott and Ludwig Grimm, to contain all the impulsiveness and remembered intensity of a Jewish childhood.

Besides the Grimms, Sendak has illustrated the work of many other writers but it is on his own picture-books—*The Sign on Rosie's Door* (1959), *Where the Wild Things Are* (1963) and *In The Night Kitchen* (1970) that *his reputation* rests. It is hard to think of another artist in the genre whose work is so autobiographical in memory, assimilation and content, nor one who was more certain, sooner or later, to be given the critical and psychoanalytical works.

The Art of Maurice Sendak is large, heavy and expensive. *It is gorgeously illustrated* with funny, beautiful, touching and downright bizarre material, some of it previously unpublished, and it has been beautifully printed in Japan. But it is not the works. It is cousin german, rather, to another book from the same New York publisher (Harry N. Abrams): *The Art of Walt Disney* by Christopher Finch (1973). Studies like these of popular American art are generous with visual information, enlightenment and design, but soft on critical intelligence and the great world outside. They lack curiosity and perspective. *Finch wrote a handsome* hagiography, and Miss Lanes has not gone as far as that, but she is a good friend of the artist and writes of Sendak's life and work with solemnity and excessive circumspection. Lazy New York words like cerebral and wondrous, phrases like "crucial variables" and "Sendak's lexicon of pleasures" merely obscure the portrait of a man whose work makes an immediate impact and who has been widely seen as a nineteenth century artist who *happens to work in the post-*Freudian age. The result is neither art-history nor good journalism.

It is not enough, for example, to pass on, and implicitly share, Sendak's indignation when John Updike alludes to the "inviting derrière" of the floating boy in a review of *Fly by Night* (1976). The allusion was *mischievous, but not irre*levant: nakedness plays a central role in Sendak's work, to the pronounced horror, from time to time, of parents and librarians though not, presumably, of their children. Infant sexuality informs perhaps his most beautiful and innocent book to date, *In the Night Kitchen*, without in any way *lessening its innocence, humour* or perfection of touch, whilst for Charlotte Zolotow's *Mr Rabbit and the Lovely Present* (1962) he devised a delicate dream of high summer in which an elegant and resourceful white rabbit and a serious little girl share a chaste but faintly erotic afternoon.

Outside Over There, for which Miss Lanes reproduces fascinating preliminary sketches, and which completes a trilogy of classic picture-books with *Wild Things* and the *Night Kitchen*, goes even further and proposes that even



Curtain design for the opera Where the Wild Things Are 1979.

babies are whole and complete individuals who experience *terror and pleasure and the* puzzlement of thinking in a thoroughly realized way. When travelling in Germany and Britain for his Grimm drawings, Sendak spent invaluable time in galleries and collections: his babies, grasping for sunflowers, are bruiser descendants of Runge's Hülsenbeck children in Hamburg, and other allusions, *in no way insisted upon*, include sheep by Samuel Palmer, ships from Caspar David Friedrich, a Mahlerian Wonder Horn and *The Magic Flute*.

Theatre and music have entered Sendak's world. He has designed a *Flute* for the Houston Opera and a *Cunning Little Vixen* for Washington. *Where the Wild Things Are* has itself been turned into an opera by Oliver Knussen; a Mozart book is gestating. Since the Metropolitan Opera in New York has taken over David Hockney—with whom Sendak shares perfectionism, wit, a creative assessment of the past and a passion, somewhat abated now, for furious cross-hatching—Covent Garden or the Welsh National Opera should retaliate by asking Sendak to do *Hansel and Gretel*: he has already done the Grimm story. We should not lose on the exchange, for Sendak's fastidious and slightly chilling response to the German folk idiom of the Romantic age would complement Humperdinck's late nineteenth century sumptuousness startlingly well.

Sendak conjures feasts for connoisseurs. All the books I have mentioned are in print from The Bodley Head. Apart from *Where the Wild Things Are* (£3.50), *Higglety Pigglety Pop!* (£1.50), *In the Night Kitchen* (£3.95) and *The Juniper Tree* (£2.50), I think the funniest is *Hector Protector* (1965, £2.95) and one of the most touching and best written *The Sign on Rosie's Door* (1959, £2.95), which draws on the tedium of August in Brooklyn most directly and seems to suggest the fantastical childhood of a Tennessee Williams heroine. *Some Swell Pup* (1976) fails not because it shows a small dog defecating on the carpet, but because it is too long—a rare lapse in judgment—and because its use of the strip cartoon is artful and leaves one feeling it would have been better done by Charles Schulz.

The genius of Peanuts is never mentioned by Miss Lanes, neither are *Sesame Street* nor *The Muppet Show*, both of which would not have taken the form they did without the example of *Where the Wild Things Are*. Wild Things, of course, not only read books, they smell them and eat them: their round yellow eyes would swivel with ecstasy at the pictures in *The Art of Maurice Sendak*: but when they came to rest their pointed teeth on the text, they would find it short of fresh ingredients and fundamentally unyielding.

Michael Ratcliffe

Swann song

Remembrance of Things Past
By Marcel Proust
Translated by C. K. Scott Moncrieff and Terence Kilmartin
(Chatto & Windus, vols 1, 2, 3, £17.50, £19, £18.50).

"It is only too easy", Terence Kilmartin comments, in the preface to his revised translation of *Remembrance of Things Past*, "for the late-comer to assume the *beau rôle*." Thus on an almost apologetic note he prefaces *this desperately-needed* revision of Scott Moncrieff's version—"almost a masterpiece in its own right." But behind Scott Moncrieff's translation; there *is* a masterpiece in its own right—Proust's—not, however, as it appeared in the muddled and incomplete *Nouvelle Revue Française* edition, on which Scott Moncrieff had *perforce to work*, but as it *now* stands in the much-corrected and augmented *Pléiade* edition of 1954. There was therefore great need for revision, now that Proust's text has been largely liberated from the confusions and misreadings engendered by the novelist's untimely death and his terrible manuscripts, with their incessant, often illegible, corrections, their insertions between the lines, down the margins, up the margins, and along the multi-folded *paperoles* he glued in.

In addition to using the much fuller and more reliable *Pléiade* text, Kilmartin translates, as *Addenda*, many of the very interesting passages, relegated, for a variety of reasons, to the "Notes and Variants" or "Appendix" of the *Pléiade* edition. He also follows the *Pléiade* model in offering at the end of each volume a synopsis for ease of reference. In the myriad volumes of the earlier translation, tracking down a reference could be a nightmare though Spalding's "Reader's Handbook to Proust" (revised a few years ago to include Andreas Mayor's translation of the final volumes) provided a synopsis under separate cover—along with a very useful Index-guide. Who, one wonders, will now undertake the task of re-indexing? (Please hurry.) Kilmartin's notes are few but well-judged to give explanations of unusual terms, vital information on literary and historical references, and useful reminders of parallels and repetitions—as well as inconsistencies—within the novel. Though not weighed down by scholarly apparatus, this is a professional job well done, and handsomely produced in good bold print.

Kilmartin rightly stresses that the translator's loyalty is to the original author, but nevertheless offers here a reworking of the Scott Moncrieff version, followed by, "with slight emendations", the Andreas Mayor version of the final volumes. It is difficult, of course, to contemplate anything as radical as a completely new translation, when Scott Moncrieff is embalmed as an English classic. But if one's loyalty is entirely to Proust, one may still reasonably regret that the Scott Moncrieff version (despite its semi-classic prestige, its many felicities, and its monumental status as a labour of love) still stands between us and a new English Proust.

With all due deference Kilmartin points out that Scott Moncrieff's prose "tends to the purple and the precious". Indeed. And countless English readers have, in consequence, *believed Proust's tone to be* precious, affected, and even wantonly periphrastic, though, as Kilmartin observes, "the truth is that, complicated, dense, overloaded though it often is, Proust's style is essentially natural and unaffected, quite free of preciosity, archaism, or self-conscious elegance." Proust's prose indeed bristles with logic and impetus, and if sometimes there is difficulty, it is difficulty that arises not from a leisurely rambling through leafy lanes of language, but from the passionate, *purposeful thrusting* of a way through the labyrinths of experience.

Scott Moncrieff, as Kilmartin again readily acknowledges, stays, contrary to popular mythology, very close to the text (the one he had!). But staying too close can be—and was—dangerous, especially *when too little allowance* is made for essential differences between the two languages, like, for instance the gender-agreements that, in French, guide the reader to the right connections, or the useful differentiation of the relative pronoun into *qui* and *que*, subject and object, a differentiation reflected in "who" and "*whom*" *but not available* to "that" or "which". When such morphological signposts are taken away, the reader, when faced with the original word-order, may not know which way to turn. On the other hand, the tiniest changes have astonishing importance in so dense a prose as Proust's. Displacements in the word-order, inattentiveness to some of Proust's pointers, and even apparently trivial shifts of vocabulary can seriously damage the intricate unity of the text.

In the rendering (in both versions) of Proust's *étendues silencieuses du ciel reflété* (silent expanses of the reflected sky) as "the silent reaches of a mirrored firmament", what devastation—quite apart from the pomposity of the nouns—is wrought by that posturing "a"! Proust is writing of the sky reflected in the water, not of *an* indefinite, ineffable "firmament".

Kilmartin's revision, however, removes a good deal of the affectation of the earlier version, and the frequency of unlovable words like "behold", "aught", "albeit", and the hideous, mouth-pursing "shew", has been reduced. There are many excellent clarifications of passages that in the earlier version were of almost insuperable opacity. Small corrections like the replacement of "*du Deffant*" by "*du Deffand*", of "wrapper" by "dressing-gown", "watch-bracelet" by "wristwatch" and "a sterile Medusa" (no snakes?) by "a sterile jelly-fish", improve readability. Many of the French words that littered the earlier version—"a sort of *virement*" (in an accountancy context), or "*aboyeur*", are replaced by the English "transfer" and "barker", while "Monsieur your father" gives way to "your distinguished father". Kilmartin also eschews the misplaced delicacy that renders the carriage *qui sentait l'horizontale* as "a carriage like a —, you could smell it a mile off" and opts for one that "reeked of harlot".

Jupien's thoroughly indelicate *Vous en avez un gros pétard* which Scott Moncrieff transforms into the mincingly coy "Aren't you naughty . . ." is now more robustly rendered as "What a big bum you have!". On the other hand, the *ventre* of the pregnant woman, which in Scott Moncrieff is the "abdomen", becomes, in Kilmartin—with scant respect for anatomy or plausibility—her "stomach". There is still, in both translations (though much less in Kilmartin) some insensitivity to the reader's occasional need for a word to indicate stress and meaning. A sentence which runs: "I could not regard as wasted hours in which . . ." causes an unnecessary hiccup in the reading, and the English reader may often feel, when clauses or nouns accumulate, the lack of a steering "or" to improve his navigation, or a friendly "and" to help him over the style . . . Kilmartin has, however, done much easing of tortured syntax, though some sentences still languish on the rack, and has removed some comic *gaucheries*, like "metaphor leaves you deaf and French history cold", whose passing one is tempted to mourn. As winter turns (as it surely must) to spring, it will console many to know that a *whole summer's reading is now* portably available in three English volumes packed with poetry, wit, and humour, and penetrating observation both of the external scene and of the landscapes of the heart.

Valerie Minogue

Bagehot as rogue elephant

The Backbench Diaries of Richard Crossman
Edited by Janet Morgan
(Hamish Hamilton/Cape, £15)

Dick Crossman was my first, and only, political hero. Of course he could be, and frequently was totally infuriating. In the *New Statesman* of the early 1970s he caused just as many tears and tantrums as he had in the Wilson cabinet of the late 1960s. But, beyond everything and above all, he was a born political teacher. In this last published volume of his *Diaries*, he finally vindicates *his claim to be the* "Bagehot of our age".

Not since Lord Beaverbrook's trilogy on the political infighting of 1914-23 has so much light been thrown on a particular period of British parliamentary history. In a way that may be surprising, for in this period (stretching, with gaps, from 1951-63), Dick Crossman was in no sense at the centre of the political stage. He was a "rogue elephant" backbencher trampling with a splendid impartiality on the susceptibilities of friends and foes alike. It was also a time when he multiplied his own difficulties by valiantly (but vainly) trying to box the compass between being a participant in politics and simultaneously a newspaper commentator on the passing political scene. What we get here, therefore, is essentially a view from the wings—but one that illuminates the nature and character of British politics even more sharply than the later volumes written from the vantage point of being a Labour *cabinet minister*.

In one respect, of course, we are very fortunate. Although he held no place in Labour's parliamentary hierarchy, Crossman—through being a Bevanite—was thrust into the cockpit of the controversy that convulsed the Labour movement in the 1950s. It was the roughest power struggle in *Labour's history* (one, incidentally, that makes today's quarrel between the Social Democrats and the leadership look *like a decorous game of croquet*). Crossman, with his well-known zest, plunged into the Bevanite battle from the beginning and, mainly through his predilection for being his own man rather than anyone else's, succeeded, in the end in getting bruised almost equally by both sides.

The figure of Aneurin Bevan dominates the first half of this volume. Initially Crossman is to be found among the most ardent of his disciples; but Bevan soon becomes a fallen *idol. The picture, indeed, that* Crossman provides of him—wayward, petulant, at moments almost childish—is a salutary corrective to the piece of court portraiture enclosed in Mr Michael Foot's two-volume biography. Not that Crossman does not supply an equivalent antidote elsewhere. The impression of Hugh Gaitskell that *emerges here—inflexible*, insensitive, intolerant—is barely reconcilable with the plaster saint encased in Mr Philip Williams's massive single-volume biography of the year before last.

It does not, in fact, require much perception to understand why Crossman was never regarded as the *most* trustworthy *of colleagues or* dependable of allies. He suffered from the terrible defect in a politician of always wanting to blurt out the truth as he saw it. To his diary he could do that with even less inhibition than to his friends. And, alas for the parliamentarians' trade union (who can be expected to resent this *volume just as much as they* did the ones published earlier), he was also gifted with one of the sharpest pens ever wielded by a politician.

In particular, as Enoch Powell noted reviewing the last of the *Cabinet Diaries*, he is remarkably shrewd as a judge of character. It is impossible to read this volume without being *astonished at how quickly* and unerringly Crossman got Harold Wilson's number—virtually from the beginning he is *spotted as the Iago of the* Bevanite enterprise. Nor are the lesser vignettes any less vivid, even when they are vicious. At the end of the 1950s, for example, the late Ray Gunter was widely hailed as the coming man among Labour politicians: an actual, real, live trade unionist who might yet prove to have it in *him to reunite the various factions* within the party. Crossman, however, was not deceived. To him Gunter was merely "a great watery slob who drinks a bit too much and whose statesmanship consists of being two-faced and backing the winning side."

Hardly perhaps the kind of language that one normally *expects to find in political* memoirs—but then the great merit of Crossman is that he never shrinks from presenting politics in the raw. In that area there remains, however, one enormous paradox about the man himself. No one who ever knew Dick Crossman can possibly have doubted his determination to rip off the *respectable façade of parlia*mentary democracy and show the public the truth. But did he ever quite realise the truth about himself?

Certainly, nothing struck me more forcibly about this volume than just what a privileged position Crossman occupied, even as an idiosyncratic backbencher, in the British power structure. His own party leaders, Clement Attlee and Hugh Gaitskell, his political opponents like Edward Boyle, Iain Macleod or Lord Harlech, society hostesses from Lady *Hartwell to Lady Melchett—all* regarded him in a quite different light from any routine left-wing backbencher. Worse, he himself enjoyed—even revelled in—being within the citadel. The final ironic twist, I fear, is that the great democratic advocate was more than a bit of an oligarch.

Anthony Howard

Fiction

Housekeeping
By Marilynn Robinson
(Faber, £5.25)

Secret Places
By Janice Elliott
(Hodder & Stoughton, £6.50)

Godric
By Frederick Buechner
(Chatto & Windus, £6.50)

Deceptive Cadence
By Eugenia Zukerman
Weidenfeld & Nicholson, £6.50)

Housekeeping has already been garlanded by so much distinguished approbation, it is hard not to turn an unfairly beady eye upon it. Marilyn Robinson has the virtues of precision and clarity rather than intensity; the prose of meditation rather than action. Nevertheless, this is a first novel which records the strangeness of life at the edges of society with all the power of genuine eccentricity. The story is set in Fingerbone, a town on a glacial lake in the Far West of America. Ruth and her sister have been abandoned there by their mother, who drives on and into the lake; the book concerns itself with the upbringing they receive, first at the hands of their grandmother, then two mildly dotty great-aunts, and finally their Aunt Sylvie, whose life as a tran*sient has not prepared her for* domestic responsibility. Ruth's innocent child's eye records the style of her camping-out in the house without astonishment. Sylvie sleeps with her boots on. She hoards newspapers and cans. Mice live in the newspapers, and a proliferating family of cats add dismembered swallows to the piles. *It is not surprising* that sister Lucille chooses dress-making and normalcy, and goes off to live with friends.

Most readers will remember the novel for the descriptions of the lake, and the bridge over it, the hills about the water, and the yellow sun rising over them. But Marilyn Robinson has an ear for comic *dialogue*, too. *As the great* aunts begin to contemplate what they have taken on, they debate as follows:

"Sylvia wasn't old."
"She wasn't young."
"She was young to pass away."
"Seventy-six?"
"Was she seventy-six?"
"That's not old."

The book moved just a little too slowly for my unqualified pleasure, *but it closes* with a chilling account of escaping across the railway bridge from the ordinary world of shelter altogether, which could stand alone as an image of what the whole book is about.

Fine writing can often be heavy reading; not so, in Janice Elliott's new novel, which is a marvellously sensitive evocation of life in a girls' school in war-time Derbyshire. The arrival of the refugee, Laura Meister, changes the weather of the classroom, and excites both interest and hostility. Patience, who is at the centre of the story, befriends the newcomer when she is baited as a German. There are some ironies in this victimization, since although Herr Doctor Meister is a declared opponent of Hitler (now a C-class alien, and evidently useful in the physical sciences) Laura's much-loved brother has remained behind as a Nazi supporter. But for all the appurtenances of the period—gas-masks, damp air-raid shelters, *sirens—the war only reaches* the children by hearsay. And it is just because Patience is so remote from a knowledge of Central Europe that she finds the exotic style of Meister family so alluring. Her innocence gives Janice Elliott an opportunity to make us understand prejudice in terms of local behaviour (though, of course, being rounded up by the English police for internment is *not* comparable to being woken in the night by the Nazis). As a novel of erotic awakening it is fresh and often moving, encompassing the secret places of the spirit as well as those of the body.

Frederick Buechner is a figure of some stature in the United States, and *Godric* is evidently a departure from his usual mode; I'm afraid I wasn't overly delighted by it. It is a densely written account of the twelfth century Durham saint, who travels towards sanctity across a world of altogether plausible brutality. Kings tie the limbs of women in labour together for sport; ascetics fight off their demons with failing limbs; and Godric wanders to Jerusalem and back with his mother, and reflects upon the work of God's hands. The language is often tough and surprising, but the rhythms are worryingly familiar. Is it the iambic pentameter we hear behind the choice of each sentence length? Not quite; but there is something bemusing in the regularity, nevertheless.

Deceptive Cadence, in marked contrast, is a simple unpretentious read. A Hungarian *pianist*, with a *punishing* concert schedule which makes it difficult to relate to any other human being, suddenly disappears in mid-tour. As the book turns entirely on his precise motives for doing so, it would be unfair of me to reveal them. No doubt a good part of the interest comes from the (altogether illegiti*mate) attempt to gawk behind* the scenes for signs of the life of the author's husband, Pinchas Zukerman. But whatever else, the book is accurate about the necessary tensions of performance, and the pleasures of giving pleasure to an audience. I couldn't help wondering why anyone with the international reputation as a flautist of *Evgenia Zukerman should turn* to the satisfactions of fiction.

Elaine Feinstein

From the dark

Towards the Mountain
By Alan Paton
(Oxford, £12.50)

Despite Alan Paton's reputation as one of apartheid's most outspoken critics, there is nothing in his very fine autobiography, *Towards the Mountain*, that will seriously embarrass his fellow white South Africans.

The reason is simple: Mr Paton lived almost half his life "in the dark", and the book barely proceeds beyond this point, ending before apartheid became official policy.

Instead it provides an altogether fascinating insight into how *Cry, the Beloved Country*, a modern classic of compassion, came to be written by that most unlikely of candidates, someone whose chief ambition at the time was to become South Africa's Director of Prisons.

No brief résumé of major events and influences could possibly do the same, but even just to tip of the iceberg, as it were, has its enlightening facets.

Alan Stewart Paton was born in 1903 of Christadelphian parents in Pietermaritzburg, Natal. He hated his violent unhappy father, and "through an intense reaction to nature" he created a "private world of self".

So private a world that it turned earthy Pietermaritzburg into "paradise", and apparently excluded those emotional ties with family servants that bring conflict and confusion to what passes for a normal white South African childhood. He makes some reference to his family's servants, but never as individuals.

Indeed he continued to be scarcely conscious of black people for many years to come, and when, in his mid-twenties, Toch H made him "feel responsible for society", it was a feeling restricted *to the white* sphere.

"Least of all," Mr Paton declares, in one of the book's most revealing passages, "did I accept the belief which was later to become the driving force of my life, that all these societies (black, white and brown) were in fact *one* society. *I use the word accept, because* this particular belief has to be accepted by an act of will."

Then at 32, after a severe illness, he gave up science *teaching*, and inspired by a book on delinquency, applied for the post of reformatory principal, hoping he'd not be put in charge of the one for black boys. He was, and made an enormous success of the job through a number of radical changes.

His life changed radically too. Not only was he now coming into daily contact with black people on a very different basis, but he was also meeting whites whose caring attitudes greatly impressed him. Moreover, as a member of an Anglican Diocesan Commission in 1941, he was forced to "look at South Africa as I had never looked at it before".

"I went out into the light," he says, adding with characteristic honesty, "This conversion can in a way never be complete, because one continues to live in a colour-bar society, and to obey its laws and to benefit by its privileges. If one did not, one might leave the country or spend the rest of one's *life* in prison."

Mr Paton left the country in 1946 to enhance his chances of becoming Director of Prisons by studying penal methods in Europe and the United States. Desperately homesick in Norway, and with an hour to kill before an engagement, he wrote the first chapter of *Cry, the Beloved Country*. And over the next three months, during a journey which doesn't always appear to have been very real to him, he completed the novel in the grip of an "intense emotion" that suggests another retreat into a private world, only this time of paradise lost.

Towards the Mountain closes with Mr Paton hoping that he will be able to set down the second half of his life before death comes to him. Anyone who has read the first half would hope so too.

James McClure

Poison in jest

The Crystal Bucket
By Clive James
(Cape, £6.95)

This is a selection from Clive James's columns in *The Observer. It covers three years* of his television reviews and ends in December, 1979, with a reference to the death of Joyce Grenfell. "Her humour", he says, "was so devoid of malice that some people called her sentimental. She wasn't. She was just greatly good."

That is one of the few really nice things Mr James says about anybody. He, himself, is never interested in seeming even slightly good, either on the page or on the screen. But, in real life there would be nobody more benevolent or more vulnerable. So I am sure malice has little to do with the stinging personal remarks he hands out.

I imagine most of his *victims* can take it. Sir Harold Wilson probably cares very little about the futile gestures he is accused of making with an empty pipe. Sartre *is no longer* around to worry, poor chap, that "He only ever had one good idea in his life". And King Edward VIII is equally *unavailable to comment* on his alleged "hidden shallows".

To turn to the living: most of those who suffer from the Clive James treatment are probably too big to bother. Including Max Bygraves ("No more fun than a sinus wash"); Eric Porter ("As usual, over-enunciating like Julie Andrews"); and Sir Michael Tippett ("It takes talent to generate triviality"). Nor can I imagine Mrs Thatcher losing much sleep after the author's welcoming diatribe at her moment of triumph, in 1979. She sounded, he said, "like the book of Revelations read out over a railway station public address system by a headmistress of a *certain age wearing calico* knickers."

I sometimes wonder if such examples of Clive James's work are merely used as appetizers, just as Esther Rantzen's *That's Life* makes use of smut to sugar the pill of more useful material. Clive even shares Esther's interest in buttocks. And because his comments on such matters are so vivid, there is a danger, until you acquire his work in hardback form, that you might forget he is the most thoughtful television critic currently being published.

I am sure that if Clive James made fewer outrageous remarks about his fellow-performers (and why do none of them ever tell him about his own television manner?) his occasional moments of devastating seriousness would seem less vivid. My favourite here is his description of the ballerina, Karen Kain.

"Watching her dance", he writes, "you could forget the world without feeling you were running away."

Kenneth Robinson

Quick guide

Nathalie Sarraute and the War of the Words, by Valerie Minogue (Edinburgh University, £10). Sarraute is a *pioneer of the nouveau roman* in postwar France. In the intolerable wrestle with words and life, she uses rhythms and patterns of language as in poetry not to describe people, but to create reality. Valerie Minogue is a senior lecturer at Queen Mary College, and author of a good study of Proust. Her book decodes and illuminates five novels by Sarraute, all available in English, and also discusses her most recent works.

Flora Annie Steel, by Violet Powell (Heinemann, £8.50). Flora Annie Steel (née Webster) sailed for India in the 1860s as the young bride of an Indian Civilian. She busied herself so effectively in the welfare and education of the people in her husband's district, that the Government complained of her intransigence, but made her Inspector of Schools throughout the Punjab. Her novel of the Indian Mutiny, *On the Face of the Waters*, and others made her a celebrity. Violet Powell captures the spirit and the charm of this splendid woman.



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SPORT

Football

Souness breaks Bulgarian backs

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Liverpool 5 CSKA Sofia 1

Liverpool gave CSKA Sofia little opportunity to gain a second British victim in this season's European Cup when at Anfield in the quarter-final last night the League champions regained their stature.

Three goals from Souness, two taken with searing drives in the second half, highlighted Liverpool's performance which, it may seem difficult to believe, was not without concern. The Bulgarians, despite the score, showed, as they had when twice beating Nottingham Forest earlier in the season, that in the departments of close control and counter-attacking they were outstanding. Here, however, Liverpool's stamina, physical presence and, above all, superb goals were down all the invention. In the end, CSKA drooped.

At 3-0 Sofia had given themselves hope with a defiant goal, and they had often run the Liverpool defence into a nervous state, yet, finally, they paid for failing to take their well-made chances. They are certainly capable of closing the margin in Sofia in a fortnight's time, but Liverpool's experience will surely take them to the semi-final.

Without Johnson, Liverpool used Heighway's speed on the left and it was his brisk work that gave the Bulgarians a troublesome start, constantly needing to clear their penalty area as Dalglish intercepted the flow of centres. The danger that Forest had seen but not countered in their European ties was the breakaway speed of CSKA, mainly through Markov and Djevisov, and although not often given such opportunities here, the threat was clear.

When Hansen let Yonchev escape him dangerously close to goal, Clemence was required to use all of his speed to throw himself into the legs of the muscular little borde, and Liverpool turned back to attack in force. A pitch length movement begun by Alan Kennedy, taken on by Dalglish but finished haphazardly by McDermott, found Sofia's defence less than the solid cliff which appeared and after 16 minutes the old familiar power of Liverpool, here restored for the occasion, brought satisfaction.

The value of Hansen, so badly missed for so long this season, was evident as he strode confidently out of defence although he was not always at ease in his own penalty area. Just such a majestic stroll through the Liverpool half led to Dalglish holding off Rangelov while Souness made some space before receiving the ball and planting it past Velinov for a fine goal.

Liverpool's pleasure was slightly discoloured when it became obvious that Thompson was in discomfort after stretching for a tackle and receiving a kick. He had to leave the field, allowing Irwin to replace him in the centre of the defence where he was even more uncomfortable against the speed of the Bulgarian forwards when they raced towards him.

If Dalglish should have made more of the chance from eight yards out, although a tricky angle, CSKA could claim, or admit, that twice before half time they ought to have scored. First Hansen and then Irwin made fearful errors, allowing Yonchev and Djevisov clear routes to goal. Clemence had to be alert to block the first attack but in the second Irwin's mistake allowed Djevisov to run past Clemence only to ruin his opportunity with a hurried, high shot.

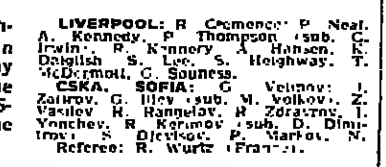
Liverpool realized the need for more goals and as the game moved into first half injury time Ray Kennedy headed down in the goalmouth and as Sofia's defenders tried to clear Lee swept in for a fierce shot to give Liverpool their second.

The fractured Bulgarian defence now gave Liverpool their head. Heighway, who had seemed to fade out of the game, suddenly began to cause them problems. His pass square across the penalty area should have been intercepted by one of them, but Souness was left with the ball and fairly blasted a shot high into the net.

Just as Liverpool thought they had broken the back of their task, a moment's slackness in their own defence allowed Yonchev to find himself as free as Liverpool's forwards had been and without hesitation he struck a good shot beyond Clemence. Liverpool felt that Bulgarian away goal like a stab and McDermott soon rectified matters. Ray Kennedy's pass across the area put McDermott in possession and his shot curled, almost reluctantly, inside the far post.

In contrast to McDermott's shot, the one that Souness unleashed for his third and Liverpool's fifth gave not the least cause for doubt. The Bulgarians were tiring badly, understandably so considering their season's winter break had only just finished. They had nothing left when, towards the end, Neal forced them to retreat before he passed wide to Heighway, whose centre was placed in the sights of Souness by Ray Kennedy. Souness accepted the offer with glee, driving his 25-yard shot like a shaft to the weakened heart of Sofia.





Souness : superb goals highlighted Liverpool's peformance.

LIVERPOOL: R. Clemence; P. Neal, A. Kennedy, P. Thompson (sub. C. Irwin), R. Kennery, A. Hansen, K. Dalglish, S. Lee, S. Heighway, T. McDermott, G. Souness.

CSKA SOFIA: G. Velinov; J. Zafirov, G. Iliev (sub. M. Volkov), Z. Vasilev, R. Rangelov, R. Zdravkov, I. Yonchev, R. Kerimov (sub. D. Dimitrov), S. Djevisov, P. Markov, N. ...

Referee: R. Wurtz (France).

West Ham in awe of the celluloid ghosts

By Stuart Jones

West Ham 1 Dinamo Tbilisi 4

The claret and blue ribbons of West Ham United may already be tied to the second division trophy, may be draped loosely around the League Cup but they have all but been torn off the European Cup Winners' Cup. Last night they suffered their first home defeat since the opening day of the season at the hands of Dynamo Tbilisi, perhaps the best side to have been seen here in the first leg of their quarter final round tie.

The Russians emerged from their deep midwinter break but there was no need to brush any sleep away from their encrusted eyelids. They were sharp and lively from the start and as their delightful skills unfolded, it became painfully clear that it would have been a difficult night even if West Ham had been at their best. Sadly, they were not.

Tbilisi were an unknown quantity, players whose elongated names had been passed on by previous conquerors, Liverpool and Waterford, whostly figures who had been seen only on celluloid. But instead of playing the way that has led to so much success, it was as though West Ham stood back in awe on being introduced to film stars.

There was one man, however, who deserved such a reputation. An unlikely figure with moustache and balding pate, Kipiani strolled around Upton Park on long, lean legs like a country headmaster. His pupils, dressed in blue and white, looked to him whenever they could and he was eager to receive so much attention. Rarely did he abuse it.

West Ham clearly had not listened to any advice that may have been given about the power and accuracy of Chivadze's shot. Otherwise they would not have allowed him to run through unopposed midway through the first half and beat Parkes from 25 yards. He was not the only player, though, to feel so free in midfield.

West Ham, already committed to going forward, were leaving gaping holes at the back. Gutsaev, who had fed Chivadze for the first, then took advantage of a glaring defensive error to score the second himself. A long clearance left Stewart alone at the back and, as he misdirected his header, Gutsaev was left clear.

Worse was to come. As the interval loomed, Devonshire went down after an awkward tackle and had to be helped off. It was the last he was seen as Allen replaced him in the second half. West Ham's hopes had now all faded away.

Bonds, though, does not give up that easily and nor do West Ham's supporters. Amid a crescendo of noise, Brooking took a corner on the hour and Cross, nudging ball and defender, was credited with his 28th goal of the season. The applause, more an expression of relief, had scarcely died away before Tbilisi regained their two-goal advantage.

Another defensive mix-up let in Svanadze and although Stewart denied him, his desperate clearance struck the right hand post and Shengelia prodded in the rebound. The speedy little striker took the fourth with similar aplomb after he had been released by a breathtaking through ball from Kipiani.

WEST HAM: P. Parkes; R. Stewart, F. Lampard, W. Bonds, A. Martin, A. Devonshire (sub: P. Allen), J. Neighbour, R. Goddard, D. Cross, T. Brooking, G. Pike.

DYNAMO TBILISI: O. Gabelia; N. Khisanishvili, A. Chivadze, S. Khinchagashvili, G. Tavadze, V. Daraselia, Z. Svanadze, T. Sulakvelidze, V. Gutsaev, D. Kipiani, R. Shengelia.

Referee, A. Garrido (Portugal).

Newport, the minnows who played like giants

Newport County, the tiny Welsh-based club who play in the third division, stole the limelight in the quarter-final round first leg of the Cup-Winners' Cup by holding Carl Zeiss Jena to a 2—2 draw in East Germany. Newport's hero was Tommy Tynan who scored both their goals, the second equalizer coming in the dying seconds. Raab scored twice for Carl Zeiss, who had beaten the redoubtable Roma in the previous round. With away goals counting double in the event of a tie, Newport seem a good bet to see off the East German Challenge on home soil. Carl Zeiss took the lead only for Tynan to level in the fortieth minute. Then Raab restored Carl Zeiss's lead in the second half.

Benfica emerged favourites to triumph over Fortuna Düsseldorf after earning a 2—2 draw in their first-leg match in West Germany. Wenzel and Dusend scored for the home team and Manuel and Humberto replied for Benfica.

Real Madrid, six times winners of the European Cup, took a firm step towards a seventh triumph by holding Spartak Moscow to a goalless draw in the first of their quarter-final match. The venue had been changed to temperate Tbilisi, in Soviet Georgia, as Moscow is icebound.

The scoresheet remained blank only because many chances were squandered — and because Daseyev twice brilliantly foiled Real's Spanish international striker Santillana. Daseyev, just back after having his appendix removed, was alert to dangerous Real counter-attacks, well supported by Stielike and the tireless Juanito. For the most part, however, it was the Russians who forced the pace against a Real defence wich never faltered. The second leg will be played in Madrid on March 19.

In Munich Bayern beat Banik Ostrava 2—0 before an estimated 20,000 crowd. She scorers were Janzon (47) and Breitner (90) with a penalty. Bayern found it difficult to break down the Czechoslovak defence. Janzon, apart from scoring, hit the crossbar in the sixth and forty-third minutes. Antalic fouled Rummenigge in the penalty area in the last minute to give Breitner the chance to convert from the spot.

The Best Bayern players were Janzon and Augenthaler. The Norwegian defender Aas also gave a good performance. He was watched from the stands by Nottingham Forest's manager Brian Clough. For the Czechoslovaks Pechacek was the best performer. Their coach Eugen Hadamcik said after the match: "A 0—1 would have been our hope, but we can still reach the semi-finals."

Red Star Belgrade gained a splendid 1—1 away draw against Inter Milan. Inter were 1—0 ahead at half time through Caso but Repcic scored Red Star's equalizer. A crowd of 80,000 saw the match.

Standard Liège drew 0—0 at home to Cologne in the Uefa Cup. The Belgian team attacked for most of the time but failed to score, partly because of their inaccurate shooting but also because of the strong German defence, particularly the brilliant display of their goalkeeper Schumacher.

Coogne, however, had a few dangerous counteratracks, including a solo effort by Willmann after 25 minutes.

The game became rough shortly before half time when the Cologne players Cullmann and Wilmann were given yelow cards. Liège's 'keeper Preud' Homme had to save dangerous shots by Woodcock and Willmann in the second half.

Slavia Sofia gained a slender 3—2 lead against Feyenoord in the Cup Winners' Cup. Tsvettou (2) and Aliev scored for the home side with Nielsen and Vermoylen replying for Feyenoord.

Sheffield Wednesday kept up their promotion chase in the second division when they shared the points in a goalless draw at Cardiff.

The fourth division leaders Southend United suffered a set-back with a 2—1 defeat at Bradford City. Gallagher gave City a twenty-third minute lead. Jackson increased it within two minutes of the restart, only for Gray to pull one back a minute later.

Bewildered O'Keefe will fight FIFA ban

Steve Hunt, Coventry City's midfield player, was banned yesterday for two matches by an FA disciplinary commission in Birmingham. The former Aston Villa and New York Cosmos player who had reached 22 points, was supported at the hearing by his manager Gordon Milne. He misses games against two first division relegation strugglers, away to Brighton and Hove Albion on Saturday and at home to Leicester City the following week.

Chesterfield, third division promotion challengers, lost their midfield player Tartt for two games when he was suspended after reaching 20 penalty points. His ban starts with the match at home to Portsmouth on Saturday. Also banned for two matches starting on Saturday, was the Halifax Town defender Evans, the fourth Halifax player to be suspended during the past two weeks. Oxford United's defender Shotton, who has reached 20 points, was suspended for one game and will miss their home match with Hull City on Saturday.

Everton's striker O'Keefe has vowed to contest a FIFA ban that could end his career as a Republic of Ireland international. O'Keefe won his first Irish cap in their 3—1 defeat by Wales in Dublin last week, but that could turn out to be his last game for his country.

FIFA have imposed the ban because two years ago O'Keefe scored the winning goal for England in a semi-professional tournament while he was playing with the Northern Premier League side Mossley. Yesterday the FIFA spokesman, Rene Court, said: "If a player has played for one international association, he cannot play for another. O'Keefe played for England some time ago and even if he has dual nationality, he cannot play for another country."

O'Keefe, whose father was born in Dublin, said: "I am absolutely bewildered. When I was picked for the Irish squad it did not enter my mind that I would be ineligible because I had appeared for England in a *non-professional* tournament. I am terribly disappointed. I have an Irish passport and I desperately want to play for my country again. Even though we lost against Wales I felt really at home with the Irish players and was proud to be an international. I haven't spoken to the Irish FA yet, but I shall not leave it there. I want to fight the decision all the way."

The Queen's Park Rangers manager, Venables has put a third of his professional playing staff up for transfer. The latest to join the list of thosea vailable—bringing the total to 11—are the striker, Langley, and the England under-21 goal-keeper, Woods.

Best has treatment

San Jose, March 3.—George Best has entered an alcoholic treatment centre as a voluntary patient, a spokesman for his United States team, San Jose Earthquakes, said today. Best, aged 33, whose wife gave birth to a son on February 5, is expected to undergo treatment for a week.—Reuter.

Today's fixtures

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Corby v Bridgend (7.30); Southern division, Addlestone and Weybridge v Hillingdon (7.30); Bognor Regis v Crawley (7.30).

SNOOKER: Yamaha Organs Trophy (at Derby).

SQUASH RACKETS: ISPA Championships (at Bangor Co Down).

Ipswich Ironsides sweep cavaliers aside

From Clive White
St Etienne, March 4

St Etienne 1 Ipswich 4

Ipswich Town's nerve survived the most tortuous opening 20 minutes of their European lives to achieve a victory that was made startling by its simplicity here tonight at the Stade Geoffroy Guichard. St Etienne, the laughing cavaliers of French football, were swept aside with a brand of football which has harnessed the finest qualities in Europe today.

It was a result only clairvoyants predict and considering St Etienne's 6—0 defeat of SV Hamburg in the previous round of this Uefa Cup, it puts British club football in a powerful position, albeit in the lesser competition.

It has to be said that St Etienne were a bitter disappointment after the strides they and French football have made in these past few years. Platini was an emerald jewel in those early trembling minutes but one that lost its lustre long before the end.

The air raid sirens and green flares that symbolised "Les Verts" provided a frightening introduction for Ipswich even before the kick-off and St Etienne played coolly on those jangling nerves for the next 20 minutes. In the first minute Paganelli went around Butcher with the greatest of ease and the Ipswich player came within a stud of bringing him down before Beattie arrived with the speed of Superman to clear.

Nevertheless it was eight minutes before Cooper, the Ipswich goalkeeper, touched the ball. The pressure was building up on the Englishmen for all the relief that the Dutch pair, Thijssen and Muhren, afforded them. A curling free kick by Zanon required an excellent save from Cooper and still Ipswich were not allowed a moment's peace. When a harrassed Beattie cleared from Rep it was the green light for St Etienne to take control. From the ensuing corner Zanon found a determined Rep rising too powerfully even for Beattie, to head home with equal venom.

Larios and Platini were the dominant links in St Etienne's chain of command and Ipswich were still their prisoners when, in the 27th minute, the midfield broke free, half expecting to be caught. Muhren curled a ball harmlessly to the far corner of the French penalty area and Mariner rose as though on imaginery shoulders to pound home his header. Whether marked or not, it made no difference. It was the first goal St Etienne had conceded in the competition so far.

The adrenalin began to slow in St Etienne's veins and, just in case their hearts were fait too, players like Osman, Beattie and Wark challenged them fiercely wherever the ball and a green shirt went. The physical aspect of the English game clearly upset the French.

Within two minutes of the restart Ipswich scored again with stunning cheek. Mariner played a side-footed cross along the face of defence, Wark flicked it casually backwards and Muhren scored with a sweetly-placed shot of minimum relocity. St Etienne left themselves thinly spread at the back without any great commitment to attack. Brazil, fed by Gates, was allowed ample opportunity to make a cross after 58 minutes and when Butcher's carefully-placed shot was blocked, Mariner popped up to slip it in.

From then on it was a matter of really containing the French until the opportunity presented itself to score again, which it did after 76 minutes. Butcher crossed and Wark's header sailed in tightly by the far post. Mariner threw his arms into the air, the French applauded warmly and Ipswich took one large stride towards the semi-final round.

ST ETIENNE: J. Castaneda; P. Battison, J-L. Zanon, B. Gardon, C. Lopez, G. Janvion, L. Paganelli, J-F. Larios, L. Roussey (sub, J. Zimako), M. Platini, J. Rep.

IPSWICH TOWN: P. Cooper; M. Mills, C. Butcher, F. Thijssen, R. Osman, K. Beattie, J. Wark, A. Muhren, P. Mariner, A. Brazil, E. Gates.

Referee: M. Rainea (Romania).

Yesterday's results

European Cup

Quarter final round, first leg

Liverpool (2) 5 Souness (3), Lee, McDermott — CSKA Sofia (0) 1 Yonchev — 37,255

OTHER MATCHES: Bayern Munich 2, Banik Ostrava 0; Spartak Moscow 0, Reeal Midrid 0; Inter Milan 1, Red Star Belgrade 1.

European Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter final round, first leg

West Ham (0) 1 Cross — Dinamo T (2) 4 Shengelia (2), Chivadze, Gutsaev — 34,957

Carl Zeiss (1) 2 Raab (2) — Newport (1) 2 Tynan (2) — 30,000

OTHER MATCHES: Fortuna Düsseldorf 2, Benfica 2; Slavia Sofia 3, Feyenoord Rotterdam 2.

UEFA Cup

Quarter final round, first leg

St Etienne (1) 1 Rep — Ipswich (1) 4 Mariner (2), Muhren, Wark — 40,000

OTHER MATCHES: Grasshopper Zurich 0, Sochaux 0; Standard Liege 0, Cologne 0; AZ 67 Alkmaar 2, Lokeren

Second division

Cardiff C (0) 0 — Sheffield W (0) 0 — 7,002

Third division

Blackpool (0) 0 — Millwall (0) 0 — 4,534

Fourth division

Bradford C (1) 2 Gallager, Jackson — Southend U (0) 1 Gray — 2,569

Pborough U (0) 1 Coke — Wimbledon (0) 1 Cork — 5,201

Scottish premier division

St Mirren (1) 2 Richardson, Stark — Airdrie (0) 1 Flood

Scottish first division

Dunfermline (0) 0 — Falkirk (1) 1 G. Smith

Hamilton (0) 0 — Ayr (0) 0

Scottish second division

Alloa (0) 1 Clark (og) — Q of South (2) 3 Robertson (3-1 pen)

Arbroath (0) 0 — Cowdenbth (0) 1 Duncan

Clyde (0) 1 Miller — Queens Pk (0) 1 McFarlane

FA YOUTH CUP: Quarter final round: Manchester City 3, Birmingham City 0.

WELSH CUP: Fifth round replay: Hereford 5, Shrewsbury 0.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Kettering 1, Scarborough 0

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Alvechurch 3, Taunton 0; Enderby Town 1, Witney Town 0.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Gateshead 0, Southport 2; Grantham 2, Goole 0.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Farnham 3, Park Barn 0, Brentwood 7, Palmers 1; Charterhouse 2, Skinning 1; Falmouth 1, Truro 1; KCS Wimbledon 5, Archbishop Tenison's 3.

Rugby Union

UAU FINAL: Durham 6, Loughborough 3.

CLUB MATCHES: Camborne Sch 10, RNEC 26; Coventry 20, Metropolitan Police 9; Cross Keys 23, South Wales Police 16; Ebbw Vale 22, Penarth 3; Llanelli 29, Glamorgan Wanderers 21; Roundhay 6, West Hartlepool 3; Tredegar 18, Maesteg 16.

TOUR MATCH: Borough Road College 36, Los Tordos (Argentina) 7.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Austin Friars 16, Heversham GS 16; Bay House 35, Tolton 3; Coopers 0, Davenant FS 13; St Bees 57, Barrow VI Form College 0. County match: Essex 10, Norfolk 6.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Challenge Cup: Second round. Dewsbury 10, Warrington 18.

HOCKEY: British Polytechnics Cup, final. Wales 0, Sheffield 3. London League: Hawks 0, Oxford University 0; London University 0, Cheam 2. Women's match: Polytechnic Cup, final: Brighton 2, Leeds 1.

NETBALL: Women's British Polytechnics Cup, final: Sheffield 36, Ulster 30.

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Tennis

Nastase and his oppponent receive fines

Denver, March 4.—A display of aggression between Ilie Nastase, of Romania, and Jim Delaney, of the United States, interrupted play last night in a tournament here and led to $750 fines for both players. Nastase won the match, 6—3, 7—5. The incident began when Nastase ran into the courtside seats to chase down a Delaney volley, knocked off a cable round the seats and tried to replace it. Delaney asked for a 30-second time violation to be called on Nastase.

When the umpire refused Delaney began shouting at Nastase and jumped over the net on to the Romanian's side of the court where some jostling ensued. The Grand Prix supervisor, Franco Bartoni, later announced that both players had been fined $750.

Colin Dibley, of Australia, took just 45 minutes on Tuesday to put out Jaime Fillol, of Chile, 6—1, 6—2, in another first round match. Fillol, who won another Volvo Grand Prix tournament in Mexico City on Sunday, said that he had trouble adjusting from the slow clay courts there to Denver's faster synthetic surface.

In other first-round games Terry Moor, the No 5 seed, advanced into the second round by defeating Robert Van't Hof, 6—3, 7—6. Andrew Pattison, of South Africa, had an easy task against an 18-year-old American, Scott Davis, taking the match 6—3, 6—3.

DENVER: First round: C. Dibley (Australia) beat J. Fillol (Chile), 6—1, 6—2; T. Moor beat R. Van't Hof, 6—3, 7—6; A. Pattison (Zimbabwe) beat S. Davis, 6—3, 6—3; Tom Gullikson beat Tim Gullikson, 3—6, 6—4, 6—3; J. Sadri beat S. Krulevitz, 6—1, 3—6, 7—5.—Reuter and AP.

LOS ANGELES: Women's tournament, L. W. King beat S. Mascarin, 7—5, 6—1; A. Jaeger beat S. Barker (GB), 7—5, 6—2; S. Hanika (W Germany) beat J. Mundell (S Africa), 6—1, 6—2; B. Potter beat S. Collins, 6—1, 7—5; G. Coles (GB) beat A. Kiyomura, 6—1, 6—2; N. Bohm (Sweden) beat L. Sandin (Sweden), 5—7, 7—6, 6—2; R. Blount beat B. Bunge, 6—0, 6—1; A. Smith beat B. Herr, 6—3, 6—1.

SALISBURY (Maryland): WCT tournament: First round: V. Amritraj (India) beat M. Orantes (Spain), 6—2, 6—2; E. Dibbs beat H. Solomon, 6—7, 6—4; R. Teacher beat E. Teltscher, 6—3, 6—1.

Cross-country

US event stops Rose's defence

Nick Rose will not be returning from the United States to defend his title in the English Cross-Country Championships, sponsored by the Provincial Insurance Company, at Parliament Hill Fields, Hampstead, on Saturday.

Barry Wallman, secretary of the English Cross-Country Union, said: "I understand he is now competing in the American championships on the same day. While obviously we would like to have seen him at Hampstead, we understand his position and the selectors will therefore be considering his America run."

Rugby Union



Durham's captain and scrum half, Dewey, sends his backs away on the winning trail.

Heroic Durham assume the purple

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Durham 6 Loughborough 3

In this full-blooded contest on the Wasps' ground at Sudbury yesterday, Durham put their hands on the Universities Athletic Union's rugby title for the fourth time with victory by a goal to a penalty goal. From a neutral standpoint—indeed from that of the losers—it was a pity that the only try of the game should have been the result of a defensive error. It was sad, also, that Loughborough should have lost their stand-off, Boyd, with concussion at half-time.

But there can be no doubt that Durham were worthy winners, and their margin would have looked more comfortable in print if Bevan, whose previous efforts as a goal-kicker carried no great conviction, had not pulled a likely penalty shot towards the finish. Just after that, Durham's No 8, the Yorkshireman, Ellison, who enjoyed a splendid game, all but managed with an inside pass to create a try for his tight head prop, Henderson, who had a yet more resounding afternoon and assuredly must be marked down as a player to watch.

There was still scope for a desperate rally by Loughborough in injury-time, but there was no way through a wall of Palatinate purple jerseys. The defence and total commitment of both teams was splendid. The tackling of Durham, when danger loomed, was mustered in numbers and often verged on the heroic.

With time running out Loughborough, curiously enough, chose to kick a penalty rather than run the ball. The full back, Barnard, got three points surely enough but the effort used up valuable seconds. By the end of it all Loughborough's hopes of an 18th title—and their eighth in 10 years—had been extinguished.

"Ah well", they said cheerfully afterwards, "we still haven't lost a final at Twickenham". For Durham, who had been runners-up to Loughborough in 1974 and 1975, it was their first success in the final since 1969.

As a contest it did not quite live up to the expectations generated by an opening phase in which the flow of affairs, expertly maintained by Roger Quittenton's refereeing, and the determination of both sides to keep the momentum going, promised something special.

But it was soon evident that Durham's forwards were exerting a telling pressure at the set pieces. The stand-off, Chesworth, came as close as could be to trading off it when hitting the crossbar with a long penalty. As it was, the score at half-time was 0-0 with a try never seriously in sight. But that had not been for want of corporate trying.

Durham got the decisive points at the start of the second period when when the red-headed Gordon, a diminutive Scottish centre who has captained his national 19-group side, charged down a clearance kick by Barnard and hacked through to score. Bevan had a simple conversion. By then the Loughborough replacement, Wardlow, had gone to a wing, Lytollis had switched flanks, and MacDonald had moved from wing to stand-off.

It was a good day all round for Durham. Their second XV won the junior UAU final, too, against the same opponents, by 6-3 after extra time.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY: L. Batten; H. M. Bevan, G. Gordon, G. J. Hulme, G. R. Halsey; N. B. Chesworth, P. W. Dewey (captain); C. J. Alcock, J. N. Johnson, S. D. Henderson, H. R. Smith, P. M. Lillington, B. Crawshaw, J. F. Ellison, R. J. Anderson.

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY: A. Barnard; F. MacDonald, S. Grabham (captain), A. L. Thompson, R. E. Lytollis; M. Boyd (rep J. Wardlow), I. K. Wright; D. T. Davies, M. Duffelen, C. L. Collins, S. Hill, G. M. Stokes, D. J. Pegler, J. D. O'Callaghan, S. M. Bain.

Referee: R. C. Quittenton (London).

Hesford drops out

Bob Hesford, the Bristol loose forward, misses England's trip to Dublin this weekend, with an injured ankle. His place on the replacements' bench against Ireland goes to Phil Moss, the Orrell flanker.

Rugby League

Welsh grandmother helps Herdman to his cap

By Keith Macklin

On March 14, 1910, a baby girl was born at a maternity home near Bridgend. She was christened Violet Ruby Ostler and a copy of the birth certificate recording this event was closely studied at Rugby League headquarters in Leeds yesterday.

As a result a young Fulham forward gets an international cap for Wales against England at Hull on March 18. The player is Martin Herdman, who has made a remarkable rise to international status after joining Fulham two months ago. He had had experience with Rugby Union clubs in the London area and had played amateur Rugby League before being seized on by the Craven Cottage club as a strong forward prospect. The lady who was born Violet Ruby Ostler is his Welsh grandmother, and his reason for being qualified to play for Wales. He joins another Fulham player, the wing, Adrian Cambriani, who wins his second cap.

Another player who gets a surprise *international* cap for *similar* reasons is Steve Rule, the Salford full back, and already a regular in the Welsh team is Trevor Skerrett, the Hull forward who qualifies via his grandparents. Wales have named a squad of 16 for the match at Craven Park, Hull, and the captain will once again be the Warrington threequarter, John Bevan.

Among the players who drop out of the squad after the heavy defeat in France are two Wakefield Trinity players, Box and Diamond, and the St Helens front row forward, Roger Owen. There is a surprise recall to international Rugby League for Colin Dixon who this season joined Hull Kingston Rovers after taking a testimonial with Salford. The Welsh squad will meet in Hull on March 17 and will train that day and the following morning.

Oldham fined: Oldham have been fined £220 after giving a centre, Ashley McEwan, a trial without the necessary registration, the Press Association reports. Although McEwan then signed permanently, the Rugby League's executive committee found the club guilty yesterday.

Ian Crowther's appeal against Hull's transfer valuation of £10,000 was rejected. The Hull hooker is on the transfer list but the fee is putting clubs off. York and Batley were found not guilty after the executive investigated a brawl in their second division game in February. The York prop, Alan Wardle, was the only player sent off.

WELSH PARTY (v England): J. Bevan (Warrington, captain), A. Cambriani (Fulham), C. Dixon (Hull KR), C. Griffiths (St Helens), M. Herdman (Fulham), M. James (St Helens), B. Juliff (Wakefield Trinity), R. Mathias (St Helens), G. Owen (Oldham), D. Parry (Blackpool Borough), P. Prendiville (Hull), S. Rule (Salford), T. Skerrett (Hull), G. Walters (Hull), D. Wilson (Swinton), P. Woods (Hull).

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Crans Montana	80	150	Good	Powder	Fair	Cloud	1
Powder on hard base							
Flaine	160	325	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	-2
New snow on good base							
Kitzbühel	70	205	Fair	Crust	Fair	Snow	2
New heavy snow on icy base							
Klosters	110	210	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-4
New snow on good base							
Les Arcs	100	250	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	-4
New snow on good base							
Sauze d'Oulx	25	80	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-1
Best conditions of 1981							
Seefield	95	140	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	2
Good skiing conditions							
Verbier	70	250	Powder	Heavy	Good	Snow	-1
Off piste heavy on lower slopes							
Wengen	95	160	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	2
Good skiing conditions							
Wildschönau	85	210	Good	Fair	Good	Snow	1
Powder on hard base							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
AUSTRIA					
Alpbach	55	190	—	—	-1
Aramer-Lizum	—	155	—	—	-10
Badgastein	75	160	—	—	-4
Berwang	190	210	—	—	-4
Brand	95	340	—	—	-2
Gargellen	100	280	—	—	-5
Hochsölden	35	190	—	—	-4
Igls	30	90	—	—	-5
Ischgl	100	210	—	—	-4
Kaprun	—	390	—	—	-11
Lech	190	230	—	—	-4
Lermoos	100	200	—	—	-3
Lienz	20	200	—	—	-4
Mayrhofen	30	140	—	—	-5
Mittersdorf	80	330	—	—	-5
Obergurgl	135	245	—	—	-5
Obertauern	270	300	—	—	-6
Saalbach	110	220	—	—	-4
Schruns	60	200	—	—	-1
Serfaus	75	230	—	—	-3
Söll	100	200	—	—	-4
Zürs	210	350	—	—	-5
NORWAY					
Geilo	—	100	Good	—	-5
Gol	—	80	Good	—	-10
Lillehammer	—	100	Pwdr	—	-6
Norefjell	—	60	Good	—	-6
Oslo	—	60	Good	—	-6
Voss	—	200	Good	—	-5
Rjukan	—	60	Good	—	-9

هكذا في الأصل

Cricket

England will not find it easy to get back in the mood

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Bridgetown, March 4

It was one o'clock here this morning (5 am GMT) when Mr Henry Forde, the Foreign Minister of Barbados, summoned Mr Peter Short, the president of the Barbados Cricket Association and the senior representative on the island of the West Indian Cricket Board, to hand him a long and carefully worded statement which said, among other things, that in "all the circumstances . . . the remainder of the England cricket tour should be permitted to continue as scheduled".

The statement amounts to a theoretical agreement with the Cricket Council's view, communicated to Guyana last week, that the inclusion of Robin Jackman in the England team does not infringe the Gleneagles Agreement of 1977, drawn up by Commonwealth heads of government.

"The Gleneagles Agreement", the statement, signed jointly by Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica and Montserrat, said, "leaves it entirely open to national sporting authorities or individual sportsmen to engage in sporting contacts with South Africa." It added, however, as it was bound to do, that "it is the obligation of the governments concerned to discourage such contacts by their nationals".

Had the decision gone the other way and the tour been cancelled, no one would have felt more utterly deprived than the people of the Caribbean. Their cricketers are their greatest joy; the game here, to quote one of this morning's Barbadian papers, is "perhaps the last unifying force in the Caribbean . . . it has survived the break-up of the Federation, the fall of governments and the reversal of ideologies". To have taken away from the West Indians their "cricket, lovely cricket" would have been like denying them their sunshine.

The reason why the statement was so long in coming—it had been expected more than 12 hours earlier—was the insistence by the Jamaican Cabinet, when they discussed it at their routine Tuesday meeting, that the wording be amended, not critically, but enough to cause further delay. It was 2 am here when Mr Alan Smith, the England manager, was woken to be told that, for the time being at any rate, the problems had been overcome.

When Mr Short telephoned Mr Donald Carr, the secretary of the Cricket Council, dawn was breaking in England. An hour or two later, Jackman himself was called by his wife and told that all was well. Once it was known that the statement, so far as the current tour is concerned, was unconditional, the favourable reaction of the West Indian Cricket Board and the Cricket Council was predictable. Jackman said later, in a prepared statement, how grateful he was to his colleagues, his family and especially to the England manager for their help and support through a difficult time.

So the tour goes on. There will be a one-day match against Barbados in Bridgetown tomorrow and a four-day match, also against Barbados, starting on Saturday, followed by the next Test match on Friday week. After the humiliations the England side have suffered, they are not going to find it easy to get into the mood. In the seven weeks since their arrival in the West Indies they have had pathetically little cricket (Gatting, one of the most promising batsmen, has had only one first-class innings, although he has always been fit) and there are now only just over six weeks left not in which to pick up the threads, because there are none, but to find some form.

Demonstrations are to be expected, and it will be surprising if the visit to Jamaica passes off without opponents of the new government trying to make capital out of the presence in the England side of those with South African connections. It was from a Jamaican source that Jackman's background was first brought to Guyana's notice. The leaders of the 30,000-strong Barbados Workers Union, who called for the tour to be abandoned, are unlikely to take kindly to its continuation, though, cricket being a special case, they have no widespread support.

Last night's decision is, of course, far from being the end of the debate. The statement pressed for a clarification of the three-party principle which "deals with" the question of sanctions against the nationals of other countries who engage, on an individual basis, in sporting activities in South Africa. This is an issue further complicated by the law as it relates to "restraint of trade".

There are between 30 and 35 English county cricketers currently coaching and playing in South Africa—many of them spending much of their time with non-white children. England must never be expected to tell them that if they continue to do so they will exclude themselves from Test selection.

It is as well, because of the breathing space it allows, that West Indies are not due in England again until 1984; England's next visit to the West Indies has yet to be scheduled. The next Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference (it was on the corresponding occasion in 1977 that the Gleneagles Agreement was signed) is in Melbourne in the autumn.

Attending the brief meeting of the emergency executive committee of the Test and County Cricket Board at Lord's this morning, at which they welcomed the West Indian decision that the tour should "proceed as planned", were Mr Charles Palmer (chairman of the Cricket Council), Mr George Mann (chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board), Mr Donald Carr, Mr Douglas Insole, Mr G. O. "Gubby" Allen (a trustee of MCC), Mr John Overy (representing the National Cricket Association) and Mr Peter Lush (assistant secretary of the TCCB with special responsibility for public relations).

Mr Carr and Mr Lush are both expected in Barbados next week, by when Mr Alec Bedser, chairman of the selection committee which chose the England party and opted for Jackman as Willis's replacement, will also be here. Before choosing the present side the TCCB were assured by the West Indian Cricket Board that the presence in the party of Englishmen who have played in South Africa would be "no stumbling block"—a nice case of wishful thinking.

As a prelude to getting back to business it was announced this morning that Bill Athey would be joining the party on Friday as a replacement for Brian Rose. With only a possible six matches left (excluding tomorrow's bun-fight) I would have settled for the present strength, fearing that an extra batsman might be more of an embarrassment than a bonus. Athey has been playing with some success for Balmain, the Sydney club with which Gatting made such a name for himself, as captain and all-rounder, last winter. A contender for Rose's place was Bob Woolmer, now coaching and playing in South Africa. The commotion, had he been chosen, can well be imagined.

South African tour: A group of Australian cricketers, including three former Test players, is planning a three-week tour of South Africa next month against the wishes of the Australian Government, Agence France-Presse reports from Canberra. The Government and the Australian Cricket Board appear to be powerless to stop the tour, which is being organized privately, although the board are also known to disapprove of it. The party will play nine one-day matches, mainly against club sides.

Statement of Caribbean governments

The Governments of Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica and Montserrat have consulted about the current tour of the West Indies by the English cricket team, which includes players who have played cricket in South Africa since the Gleneagles Agreement of June 1977.

In considering the matter the representatives of the governments concerned have been guided not only by that agreement, which was drawn up by Commonwealth heads of government, but also by the United Nations declaration against apartheid in sports adopted in December 1977.

Both of these agreements seek to isolate South Africa from international sporting activities. The agreements start from the premise that apartheid is an abhorrent practice and that there should be full support for the international campaign to eradicate it in all its forms, including its application in the field of sport.

In the pursuance of this the parties to these accords agreed that there will be no official sponsorship, support or encouragement of sporting contacts with South Africa. The governments committed themselves to do everything practicable to discourage their nationals from contact or competition with sporting organizations, teams or sportsmen from South Africa.

It hardly needs restating that the Governments of Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica and Montserrat fully support the principles and objectives set out. The point of contention in the case of the tour of the England cricket team is whether sanctions should be invoked against those members of the team who play cricket in South Africa after the Gleneagles Agreement.

The agreement, however, does not deal with the question of sanctions against the nationals of other countries who engage, on an individual basis, in sporting activities in South Africa. This particular aspect of the matter, referred to as the "Third party principle", has been found to be one of great committee of the United Nations has been debating this matter for two years without resolution so far. The present case, raising as it does the third party principle, must therefore be treated on its own merits.

In view of this, and after the most careful and searching consideration, and having regard to all the circumstances involved, the governments have jointly concluded that the remainder of the cricket tour should be permitted to continue as scheduled.

The continuation of the tour must not be interpreted to mean that the Gleneagles Agreement leaves it entirely open to national sporting authorities or individual sportsmen to engage in sporting contacts with South Africa.

We wish to emphasise that it is the obligation of the governments under the agreement to discourage such contact by their nationals, and we call upon all national sporting organizations and individual sportsmen to lend their support.

The Governments also firmly believe that there is a clear need for the forthcoming Commonwealth heads of government meeting to reaffirm adherence to the principles of the Gleneagles Agreement and to examine the manner of its implementation up to the present. To this end the governments will consult as early as possible with their colleagues in the Caribbean community and the wider Commonwealth to ensure that effective coordination will take place with a view to strengthening the international campaign against apartheid.

"The four governments reiterate their determination to pursue the common objectives of isolating the racist regime in South Africa and destroying the inhuman practice of apartheid.

Ice skating

Miss Cottrill in second place after the figures

From John Hennessy
Hartford, March 4

Deborah Cottrill, the British figure skating champion in all but name, confirmed her reputation as an exponent of school figures as the long second morning of the world championships dragged on here in Connecticut. With the three figures completed, she lay second to Claudia Kristofics-Binder (Austria) with Kristina Wegelius (Finland) third. This is very much a repetition of her experience in [illegible] month.

Innsbruck also carries the memory of a fall from grace, both literally and metaphorically, in the free skating that left her finally sixth. She is capable of better things here. Her true form would carry her clear of Miss Kristofics-Binder. But too many outstanding free skaters lie in wait to hold out anything but the remotest chance of a medal. A substantial improvement on her ninth place in the world last year, however, does not carry us into the realm of fantasy.

Karen Wood (Deeside), who beat Miss Cottrill (Solihull) to the British title in December in strange circumstances, was 13th after the first two figures, much in tune with her performance in Europe. She has however arrived on the scene so late at the age of 18, that this is her first appearance and due allowance must be made.

And what a difference a year makes! At the World Championships last March, Susan Garland and Robert Daw were 13th and 16th respectively and their marks for the short programme at Dortmund ranged from 4.5 to 4.5. Last night their improvement brought 5.0 from all nine judges. Even so, many spectators felt that they were undermarked as they went through all the required elements with sureness of touch and maturity of technique. They were eighth last night, compared with 13th a year ago, so that the hopes we have held out for them these last few years are coming nicely to the boil.

The newly installed European pairs champions, Irina Vorobieva and Igor Lisovski (Soviet Union) won the short programme by such a clear margin that their victory here now seems a foregone conclusion. he world champions, Marina Cherkasova and Sergei Shakhrai, also of the Soviet Union, suffered a further setback after their disappointment at Innsbruck. They were beaten into third place by Sabine Bass and Tassilo Thierbach, the leading East German pair here only because an injury has kept Manuela Mager and Uwe Bewersdorf at home.

The men's figures identified the swans and the geese. Brian Orser, the Canadian champion, is out of the running, since he acquired 5.4 points for ninth place. Thus his spectacular demonstration of the triple axel in the free skating will almost certainly count for nothing. Robert Wagenhoffer (US), simliarly, is so far behind that he can attempt the first quadruple jump in the history of the sport without fear of damaging his prospects any further.

The field now seems to have narrowed to Jean-Christophe Simond (France), David Santee (United States), Brian Pockar (Canada), Scott Hamilton (United States) and Igo Bobrin (Soviet Union). They finished in that order in the figures, which means, as an example, that Bobrin needs to surpass Simond by three places

PAIRS' SHORT PROGRAMME: 1, I. Vorobieva and I. Lisovsky (USSR) 9 place marks, 0.4 points; 2, S. Baess and T. Thierbach (EG) 22, 0.8; 3, M. Cherkasova and S. Shahrai (USSR) 32, 1.2; 4, C. Riegel and A. Nischwitz (WG) 35, 1.6; 5, V. Porshina and M. Akbarou (USSR) 35, 2.0; 6, B. Lorenz and K. Schubert (EG) 65, 2.4; 7, C. Carruthers and P. Carruthers (US) 61, 2.8; 8, S. Garland and R. Daw (GB) 67, 3.2; 9, L. Miller and W. Fauver (US) 78, 3.6; 10, B. Underhill and P. Martini (Canada) 88, 4.0; 11, Tuan Bo and Yao Bin (China) 99, 4.4.

Racing

Irish mare is a 24-hour wonder

By Michael Seely

Anaglogs Daughter showed herself to be on target for an ambitious double at Cheltenham when defying top weight in the Foxrock Cup at Leopardstown in Ireland yesterday. After making ever yard of the running, the brilliant mare was clear over the last three fences and won unchallenged by eight lengths from Luska with Jack Of Trumps two lengts away third.

Bill Durkan, Anaglogs Daughter's trainer, said that his mare would now go for the £30,000 Queen Mother Steeplechase run over two miles on the Wednesday of the National Hunt Festival and then 24 hours later for the Cheltenham Gold Cup. The Michael O'Brien-trained Old Society was made favourite at 7-4 but fell. In view of the fact that Anaglogs Daughter is unlikely to stay three and a quarter miles she is still quoted at 20-1 for the Gold Cup with the sponsors, the Tote. However she nw looks to be unbeatable in the two mile championship.

Jack of Trumps lost little in defeat. Edward O'Grady's Gold Cup hope was on terms until the third fence from home and lost second place to Luska on the run home. For a horse who stays so well it was no disgrace to be beaten so easily by Anaglogs Daughter over two and a half miles. Jack of Trumps is now joint favourite with Silver Buck with most of the leading firms of bookmakers for the Gold Cup.

Monica Dickinson, the mother of the trainer, Michael, reported at Wetherby yesterday that Silver Buck worked in fine style with Wayward Lad at Harewood yesterday morning. Mrs Dickinson also said that Siler Buck was unlikely to run in the Sean Graham Steeplechase at Hereford on Saturday and that he would be more likely to have a workout on Catterick Bridge racecourse next Wednesday.

Both Dickinson and Peter Easterby are undecided about their plans for Haydock Park's two big races on Saturday, the Greenall Whitley Breweries Trophy and the Timeform Steeplechase. Easterby issued a definite warning that Night nurse would miss the three mile handicap if the going were to be heavy. "I could not advise anyone to back Night Nurse at this stage", the champion trainer said. There will be an inspection at Haydock Park at midday today to see if there is any chance of racing tomorrow.

Three odds-on favourites were beaten at Wetherby yesterday, the most surprising defeat occurring when Bassnimoor floored the odds of 9-4 laved on Path of Peace in the Cowthorpe Novices' Hurdle.

One of yesterday's winners who is definitely bound for the National Hunt Festival is Whiggie Geo. Ridden by Nigel Tutty, Whiggie Geo just got the better of a close finish with The Drunken Duck. Cheekio Ora, the third. There was a sporting flavour to this victory as the winner's trainer, lbert Sanderson was crippled eight years ago after a fal in a point-to-point. "My vises Whiggie Geo's preparation", the Cleveland farmer said. "I entered him for the Gold Cup but his entry went astray. So the Foxhunter's Challenge Cup will be his target at Cheltenham." Whiggie Geo was certainly a bargain buy at £500 as a four-year-old.

Racing at Lingfield Park today has been abandoned because the course is waterlooged. At Ludlow, Tomy Carmody and Rednael can din the Forbra Challenge Gold Cup. After beating Trojan Walk easily at Catterick, Rednael fell at an early stage in Rubstic's race at Doncaster. This reasonably handicapped novice may have most to fear from Master Spy and Spartan Major.

Also at Ludlow, Sointulla Boy should at long last find another winning copportunity in the second division of the Bromfield Novices Steeplechase. Sointulla Boy has twice shown the utmost gallantry in defeat—against Clayside at Sandown Park and against Stopped at Worcester. The six-year-old meets nothing of that calibre in this comparatively humble event.

A rare bit of wizardry from Welsh

Bill Price and David Birchell, two neighbouring Welsh permit holders, had plenty to celebrate at Worcester yesterday when they landed a "double" fdom a total of three horses in training. They also provided two winners for the Swansea-based jockey John Williams.

Lanka, trained by Price, had to survive a bad blunder at the final fence before galloping home 25 lengths clear of The Baker to win the Fort Royal Handicap Steeplechase. Price said, "He lost his concentration at the last fence, and has a tendency to do that". Apart from that one mistake, Lanka was never in danger, always jumping better than his rivals.

David Burchell trains his only horse, Walmari, two miles from Price at Ebbw Vale. Taking over the lead at the third flight, Walmadi, although tiring in the straight, stayed on well to win by six lengths in the Wychbold Selling Handicap Hurdle. Burchell combines training Walmari with farming, and has 300 sheep on the Welsh hillsides.

Charles Fenwick, the American amateur rider, who padtnered Ben Nevis to victory in last year's Grand National, had his first ride in England since that race when *partnering Medoc in the* Mark Five Amateur Riders Handicap Steeplechase. Although only seventh to Talon, Fenwick was enthusiastic about his retudn saying: "It's great to be back, and I would like a ride in this year's National, but it will have to be a good one."

Tails he wins: Kudu King heads over the last flight to win the Ferry Novices Hurdle at Worcester.

Cheltenham's 150 years commemorated

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

To mark their 150th anniversary this year the Cheltenham Steeplechase Company have just produced a 64-page commemorative brochure which should make many friends during the forthcoming National Hunt Festival in a fortnight's time. Priced at only £1, the brochure is the idea of Edward Gillespie, who is now the course manager and both he and his board have every reason to feel pleased with his work.

The brochure traces the history of racing at Prestbury Park, which is Cheltenham's home and includes many photographs previously unpublished. The numerous contributors include Lord Oaksey, Terry Biddlecombe, Richard Pitman and Peter O'Sullevan. They have contrived to paint an excellent picture of the course's vivid contribution to National Hunt racing in this country.

Later this year Cheltenham will stage two races to mark this milestone. Both will be run on November 13 and both, the steeplechase and the hurdle, will have £5,000 added to the sweepstakes as well as a commemorative trophy or the winning owner. In addition to the prize money the company will present a memento of the occasion to the owner, trainer and rider oi every runner in both races.

As far as this year's National Hunt Festival is concerned, the usual contingency plans will come into force if bad weather disrupts the meeting. As if our unpredictable climate is not enough to contend with, Cheltenham have also had a battle on their hands with those who forge tickets. Last year one culplit was arrested by the police with fake badges worth £6,000 still in his possession so heaven alone knows what he had already got rid of.

This year the company have taken measures which somewhat understandably they are not prepared to disclose to prevent a repetition. However, Miles Gosling, their chairman, did say yesterday that anyone who bought a badge for any one of the three days before February 28, can be certain that they are now in possession of a dud.

Worcester

2.0 (2.1) FERRY HURDLE (Div I: novices: £690: 2m)
KUDU KING, b g by Ferry Glen—Alla Capella (T. Hodgkins) 4-10-4 .. Mr J. Cambidge (9-2) 1
Man in the Middle C. Brown (11-2) 2
Nimble Dove Mr M. Low (4-1fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 76p; places, 18p, 23p, 14p. Dual F: £3.18. CSF: £2.78. B. Cambridge at Shifnal. 5l, 1l. Messenger of Peace (20-1) 4th. 20 ran. NR: Tom's Tears.

2.30 (2.31) SIDBURY CHASE (Handicap: £1,019: 2m)
DURHAM TOWN, b g by Bivouac—Liza Goblin (M. Henriques) 12-11-5 Mr A. J. Wilson (6-4) 1
Indired .. P. Scudamore (5-4 fav) 2
Tenedale .. Mr G. Kennard (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 21p; Dual F: 17p. CSF: 33p. Mr Henriques at Cirencester. 25l, ¾l. Think Big (10-1) 4th. 5 ran.

3.0 (3.1) WYCHBOLD HURDLE (Selling handicap: £549: 2½m)
WALMARI, b m by Communication—Angillian (D. Burchell) 5-10-7 J. Williams (20-1) 1
Street Girl .... G. Davies (9-1) 2
Broughty Pier .. W. Morris (9-2) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.11; places, 20p, 40p, 28p. Dual F: £9.88. CSF: £17.19. D. Burchell at Ebbw Vale. 6l, 2½l. Glitter Boy 100-30 fav. Provoking (9-2) 4th. 12 ran. NR: Nepotist, Miss Falcon.

3.30 (3.31) MARK FIVE CHASE (Handicap: amateurs: £1,348: 3m)
TALON, ch g, by George Spelvin—Battling Bessie (Hugue), 6-11-0 Mr T. G. Dun (100-30 fav) 1
Lochage Mr T. Thomson Jones (10-1) 2
Captain Clover Mr P. Webber (12-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 37p; places, 17p, 22p, 19p, 16p. Dual F: 65p. CSF: £3.42. M. Dickinson, at Harewood. 1l, 5l. Never Rock (50-1 4th). 17 ran. NR: Railway Line, Kite, All Bright.

4.0 (4.1) FORT ROYAL CHASE (Handicap: £1,400: 2½m)
LANKA, ch g, by Indian Order—Proud Light (W. Price), 9-10-3 J. Williams (11-10 fav) 1
The Baker ...... W. Morris (9-2) 2
Rotomar Boy .... C. Smith (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 17p; places, 10p, 15p, 39p. Dual F: 35p. CSF: 62p. W. Price, at Ebbw Vale. 35l, 2l. Reasonable Choice (25-1) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Dawn Fox.

4.30 (4.34) FERRY HURDLE (Div II: novices: £690: 2m)
BARON BLAKENEY, gr c, by Blakeney—Teleflora (Wheatley Leisure), 4-11-4 P. Leach (9-4) 1
Just A River .. J. Francombe (7-2) 2
Lutanist .... H. Davies (7-4 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 49p; places, 11p, 10p, 21p. Dual F: 71p. CSF: 99p. M. Pipe, at Wellington. 2½l, ¾l. Charley Fisher (66-1) 4th. 16 ran. NR: Gold Secret, Mortar, Prince Milborne, Quite Lucky.
PLACEPOT: £6.80.

Ludlow programme

1.45 BROMFIELD CHASE (Div I: 6-y-o novices: £640: 2m)
1 2031 Jo Colombo (D, W. Jenks, 11-12 .. R. Davies
2 -0010 Our Laurie, T. Forster, 11-12 .. Smith Eccles
5 f40 Ballyo, E. Owen Jnr, 11-7 .... Earnshaw
6 00-p0 Bow Batts, Mrs J. Kington, 11-7 .. Mr Low 7
8 000f Craghana Prince, D. Barons, 11-7 .. Cargeeg 7
10 -0010 Drops O'Brandy, J. Edwards, 11-7 .. Warner
11 04/4- Father Flash, B. Palling, 11-7 .... Candy
13 0410 Galaxy King, K. White, 11-7 ...... C. Smith
16 4033 Kutani, M. Stephens, 11-7 .... Barrett 4
22 0000 Rag Time Band, A. Chamberlain, 11-7 Mr Chamberlain 7
25 Rushbury, K. Bailey, 11-7 ...... A. Webber
27 0000 Triple Sweet, I. Maddocks, 11-7 .. G. Daines 7
7-4 Jo Colombo, 11-4 Our Laurie, 6-1 Kutani, 8-1 Rushbury, 10-1 Father Flash, 12-1 Drops O'Brandy, 16-1 others.

2.15 BORDER HURDLE (Selling handicap: £403: 2m)
4 2020 The Harnser, K. Morgan, 6-11-2 .. McSharry
5 00-p0 Miss Muffin, D. Carey, 6-10-12 ...... Hyde
6 30-p0 Blessed Son, A. W. Jones, 5-10-11 .. Keightley
7 p0-0p Firebourg (B), Mrs J. Evans, 6-10-9 .. Wall
10 000 Quack Shot (B), D. Wintle, 4-10-6 .. Wathen
13 p000- Tonto Boy, J. Bradley, 5-10-5 .... G. Davies
16 pu03 Little Tyrant, B. Richmond, 4-10-4 .. O'Connor
17 p-00 Mini Market, K. White, 6-10-3 ...... Howes
19 0000 Tudor Lyric, W. Clay, 4-10-2 .... Elliott
23 00pp Friesland Lass (B), J. Peacock, 4-10-2 Breeze
24 000 Miss Falcon, B. Cambidge, 5-10-2 .... Mann
13-8 Little Tyrant, 5-2 The Harnser, 4-1 Blessed Son, 11-2 Mini Market, 8-1 Tudor Lyric, 14-1 others.

2.45 BROMFIELD CHASE (Div II: 6-y-o novices: £640: 2m)
3 021f Supertino (D), E. Owen jnr, 11-12 Earnshaw
4 2222 Sointulla Boy, Mrs H. Houlbrooke, 11-12 Mr T. Houlbrooke 7
7 -3130 Coomond, W. Fisher, 11-7 .... M. Williams
12 00e0 Flying Drum, Mrs W. Sykes, 11-7 ...... Linley
14 0of-0 Go Gaily, F. A. Smith, 11-7 ...... Brockley 7
18 3-010 Midnight Song, T. Forster, 11-7 Smith Eccles
19 p030 Murray Thwaite, J. S. Wright, 11-7 Scudamore
21 0013 Quick Buck, J. Edwards, 11-7 .... Blacker
23 000-0 Rigoletto, E. Evans, 11-7 .... Suthern
26 -4000 Sentimental Me, W. Charles, 11-7 M. Charles 4
29 40e0 Whitley Fiesta, D. Carey, 11-7 ...... Caryill 4
30 432p Wollop (B), D. Barons, 11-7 .... Leach
2-1 Sointulla Boy, 3-1 Supertino, 11-2 Quick Buck, 8-1 Coomond, 10-1 Wollop, 12-1 Midnight Song, 16-1 others.

3.15 STOKESAY STAYERS' HURDLE (Handicap: £1,139: 3m 1f 180yd)
3 221-2 Going For Gold, D. Kent, 6-11-3 .. Haynes
4 0-303 Newry Hill, Mrs W. Sykes, 8-11-2 .. Linley
5 200f Just Revenge, D. Barons, 9-11-0 Miss Vincent
9 f20p Star of Bargello (CD), F. Yardley, 6-10-13 Morris 4
11 0000 Grand Rose (CD, B), M. Stephens, 9-10-13 Barrett 4
13 4p00 Bucksome (B), J. Edwards, 8-10-11 Blacker
16 202p Katitza (B), J. Colston, 6-10-6 ...... Burke
18 104-0 Something's Missing, B. Parrett, 13-10-5 Mrs Vickery
19 3000 Run Deep, D. Gandolfo, 5-10-4 ...... Burton
20 -0000 Jackstones, J. Spearing, 10-10-3 .... Dickin
21 3460 Prominetto, R. Hartop, 5-10-2 .... Hawkins
23 2000 Citadel Roc, J. Bradley, 6-10-1 .. G. Davies 7
24 -0p00 Gleaning, P. Felgate, 6-10-0 .... Tuck
25 0004 Royal Wren (C), J. Wright, 6-10-0 Scudamore
26 /000 O'Conna (B), B. Cambidge, 8-10-0 Mr J. Cambidge 7
28 -00ff Heldorty, B. Morgan, 7-10-0 ...... Breeze 7
29 3300 Celtic Love, M. Oliver, 5-10-0 .... A. Webber
30 0303- Rosey Covert, D. Gandolfo, 8-10-0 M. Richards 7
31 00p4 Chuchills, Mrs D. Williams, 5-10-0 .... —
32 4-030 Flying Walter (B), K. Morgan, 6-10-0 Webb
33 p0p Finocchio, B. Palling, 8-10-0 .... Candy
34 00-p0 Bert's Courage, W. Preece, 8-10-0 .. R. Davies
35 pf00 Reekie Linn, Mrs P. Rigby, 11-10-0 Mrs Rigby 7
36 0000 Whistling Scot, J. Priday, 7-10-0 .... G. Jones
11-4 Going For Gold, 7-2 Newry Hill, 9-2 Royal Wren, 6-1 Katitza, 8-1 Prominetto, 10-1 Just Revenge, 12-1 Run Deep, 14-1 Citadel Roc, 20-1 others.

3.45 FORBRA CHASE (Handicap: £1,389: 3m)
1 1-44p Another Prospect (D), J. Edwards, 9-11-12 Scudamore
2 -023f Master Spy (D), T. Forster, 12-11-10 Mr Thomson Jones
4 1-430 Cedor's Daughter (D), Miss S. Griffiths, 10-11-8 .... Mr Oliver 7
6 111f Rednael, M. Dickinson, 7-10-13 .... Carmody
9 0210 China Cottage (D, B), P. Bailey, 8-10-10 Smith Eccles
11 -0404 Menquilla (D), G. Kindersley, 8-10-10 De Haan 4
12 1321 Spartan Major (D, B), Mrs W. Sykes, 7-10-7 Linley
14 -0020 Kinlavie, B. Forsey, 12-10-4 .... J. Williams
15 3400 Perambulate (B), D. Barons, 12-10-1 .. Leach
18 -0001 Mister Jhonnie, M. Oliver, 7-10-0 .. A. Webber
19 0ppp- Game Gentleman (D), R. Hartop, 10-10-0 Suthern
21 342p Express Orchid, B. Forsey, 8-10-0 .... Bosley
22 -pp0r Vulrory's Kid, C. Miller, 10-10-0 .. M. Floyd
24 0f02 Equity, J. Laurie, 12-10-0 ...... Earnshaw
9-4 Rednael, 100-30 Spartan Major, 5-1 Master Spy, 13-2 China Cottage, 8-1 Mister Johnnie, 12-1 Menquilla, 16-1 others.

4.15 ALDON CHASE (Handicap: £1,113: 2½m)
1 0f3f Blackwater Bridge, F. Rimell, 9-12-0 Mr Woods
3 22-f0 Sir Gayle (C), C. Mackenzie, 8-11-12 .. Leach
5 1p24 Richmede (C), M. Stephens, 8-11-8 Barrett 4
6 1112 Whistle For Gold (D), T. Forster, 8-11-6 Mr Fenwick
7 1f33 Dewy's Quay (D), N. Henderson, 8-11-4 Smith Eccles
8 344-0 Go Perrys, Miss C. Phillips, 10-11-1 Mr Romney
10 f021 Straight Cash (C), Mrs W. Sykes, 8-10-13 Linley
12 3310 Prince Fury, J. Webber, 6-10-9 .... A. Webber
13 014f Vatican Express, E. Courage, 10-10-8 Andrews 4
16 p330 Prince of Pleasure, M. Tate, 8-10-3 Scudamore
17 04f0 Go Free, B. Cambidge, 8-10-0 ...... Crank
19 /0p0 First Break, M. Low, 10-10-0 .... Mr Low 7
20 00/p Lampshade, P. Bevan, 8-10-0 .... C. Smith
21 0f30 Wandana, P. Bailey, 6-10-0 .... Smart
22 p/04- Simone Martial, G. Goodman, 12-10-0 .. —
23 0244 Ballet Master, A. W. Jones, 8-10-0 Keightley 7
11-4 Straight Cash, 3-1 Whistle For Gold, 4-1 Prince Fury, 11-2 Richmede, 7-1 Dewy's Quay, 10-1 Blackwater Bridge, 14-1 others.

4.45 CORVEDALE HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £276: 2m)
5 000 About Turn, G. Clay, 10-10 ...... C. Jones
7 00 Calmacutter, A. W. Jones, 10-10 Miss D. Jones 7
10 00p0 Debbie Mary, S. Holmes, 10-10 .. Mr Woods
11 0020 Esal Boy, D. Kent, 10-10 .... Haynes
12 03 Flying Octopus, P. Ransom, 10-10 .... Hobbs
14 0 Grand Oeuvre, W. Jenks, 10-10 .. R. Davies
16 Handsome Stranger, M. Oliver, 10-10 .... Crank
21 00 Keadean, W. Clay, 10-10 .... Clay
22 30 Latin American, T. Forster, 10-10 Smith Eccles
25 Lauking, D. H. Jones, 10-10 ...... Seward 4
26 0 Lookslike Reindeer, D. Wintle, 10-10 .. Hyett
28 0002 Nahane, P. Bevan, 10-10 .... Wall 7
29 00 Native Break, S. Holland, 10-10 .... Holland
30 Paparouna, Mrs R. Brackenbury, 10-10 Miss Fisher
32 p Prince Browny, N. Brookes, 10-10 Mr Brookes
34 0000 Royal Classic, D. Wintle, 10-10 ...... Hyett
37 40 Strathdearn, W. D. Francis, 10-10 .. Scudamore
38 0 Topicality (B), J. Bradley, 10-10 G. Davies 7
39 Under the Counter, D. Lomax, 10-10 Hansen 7
40 04 Wagnerian, R. Hartop, 10-10 .... Suthern
3-1 Nahane, 7-2 Latin American, 4-1 Wagnerian, 6-1 Flying Octopus, 8-1 Esal Boy, 12-1 Handsome Stranger, Native Break, 16-1 others.

Ludlow selections

By Michael Seely

1.45 Jo Colombo. 2.15 The Harnser. 2.45 Sointulla Boy. 3.15 Going For Gold. 3.45 REDNAEL is specially recommended. 4.15 Sir Gayle. 4.45 Latin American.

Wetherby results

1.45 (1.46) HAREWOOD HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £690: 2m)
PALMERO, b c, by Palm Track—Duresme (Mrs K. Howells), 10-7 C. Tinkler (12-1) 1
Kittaspec Girl A. Brown (4-6 fav) 2
Northern King .. G. Kersey (12-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 74p; places, 25p, 10p, 24p. Dual F: 66p. CSF: £2.10. K. Stone, at Malton. ¾l, 8l. El Chaparall (5-1) 4th. 12 ran.

2.15 (2.16) YORKSHIRE LAND-ROVER (Qualifier: Hunters: £892: 3m 100yd)
WHIGGIE GEO, ch g, by Nos Royalistes—Jenny Geddes (A. Sanderson), 9-12-0 Mr N. Tutty (7-2) 1
The Drunken Duck Mr B. Munro Wilson (9-4) 2
Cheekio Ora Mr P. Greenall (11-8 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 40p; places, 13p, 10p, 16p. Dual F: 58p. CSF: £1.16. A. Sanderson, at Stokesley. Nk, 20l. New Formula (10-1) 4th. 8 ran.

2.45 (2.46) MICKLETHWAITE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,364: 3m)
FOGBOUND, br g, by Misti IV—Santa Lucia (Mrs S. Austin) D. Wilkinson (7-2) 1
Grid .... Mr T. Easterby (5-2 fav) 2
Go On Joe .... D. Oldham (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 49p; places, 14p, 16p, 26p. Dual F: 72p. CSF: £1.8c. P. Curtis, at Kirkbymoorside. Hd, ¾l. Raise You (16-1) 4th. 10 ran.

3.15 (3.17) SICKLINGHALL CHASE (Novices: £1,233: 2½m 100yds)
LUCKY REW, br g, by Lucky Brief—Handy Money (W. A. Stephenson), 6-11-11 Mr E. McIntyre (7-4) 1
Quays Luck ... C. Grant (4-6 fav) 2
Leganes ...... C. Pimlott (14-1) 3
TOTE: win, 28p. Dual F: 16p. CSF: 30. W. A. Stephenson, at Bishop Auckland. 4l, 5l. Only three finished. 5 ran. NR: Box of Tricks.

3.45 (3.45) EAST KESWICK CHASE (Handicap: £1,533: 2m)
WHY SO, b g, by No Argument—Rusheen Point (F. Soudavar) 8-11-10 A. Stringer (15-8 fav) 1
Border Brig .... G. Bradley (2-1) 2
Pewter Spear W. Breadwood (3-1) 3
TOTE: win, 21p. Dual F: 23p. CSF: 48p. D. Smith, at Bishop Auckland. 1l, head. Heronford (7-1), 4th and last.

4.15 (4.17) COWTHORPE HURDLE (Novices: £690: 2m)
BASSNIMOOR, b g, by Jimmy Reppin—Arctic Festival (M. Smith) 5-10-10 M. Bastard (6-1) 1
Path of Peace D. Atkins (4-9 fav) 2
Quisiader G. Charles Jones (10-1) 3
TOTE: win, 76p; places, 21p, 10p, 13p. Dual F: 27p. CSF: 87p. Mrs P. Sly, at Peterborough. 2l, 6l. Always Linpac (12-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Pinewood Grange, Latest Craze, Rennis Bar. PLACEPOT: £3.10, JACKPOT: £945.50.

STATE OF GOING (official): Lingfield Park: Abandoned, waterlogged. Ludlow: Soft. Newbury (tomorrow): Soft back straight, good to soft home straight. Haydock Park (tomorrow): Hurdles course soft (heavy in back straight); steeplechase course good to soft; stewards' inspection 12 noon on hurdles course.

Hockey

Defty approach work by Cheam pays dividends

By Sidney Friskin
London University 0 Cheam 2

Two goals late in the first half weresu fficient for Cheam to take full points off London University in this London League match at Motspur Park yesterday. It was only Cheam's fourth win in 20 matches, three of which they have drawn.

A lot of good hockey was played by two teams at the bottom of the table in a match which, by mutual consent, started at 4.15 pm instead of 2.45. By the time London had forced their 11th short corenr it was difficult to see the ball

Despite London's inability to score, their main weakness throughout the season, they took charge of the first 15 minutes of the game. Cheam, a little unsettled, were held together by Parsons at the back but, despite their less frequent excursions, looked more dangerous in attack.

Much of Cheam's approach work was done by Defty, the centre forward, who combined well with Booth. But it was Lee, the centre half, who set up the chance for the first goal in the 28th minute, Booth following up to score on the rebound, from a short corner. A couple of minutes before the interval, Debling followed up to score after Hancox in the London goal had saved from Booth.

It took London a long time to realize how useful Tapner was on the left wing. On two occasions he beat almost the whole defence on his own but could not finish the work he had begun. London put more effort into their attacks during the last 10 minutes and came close to a score, the Cheam goalkeeper saving on both occasions. In the end, it was the London citadel that nearly fell again, Hancox saving well from Defty at close range.

In the first few minutes of the game Haigh and Eggleton deputised for Hitchin and Staunton who were late arrivals for Cheam.

LONDON UNIVERSITY: L. Hancox (Imperial College); D. Dodds (London Hospital), A. Isbister (Charing Cross Hospital), D. Reynolds (University College), *D. Tipper (Goldsmiths'), G. Takle (Queen Elizabeth College), R. Mills (Goldsmiths'), *M. Eaton (Guy's Hospital), S. Mancu (Bedford College), *R. Elsion (King's College Hospital), R. Tapner (King's College Hospital).
CHEAM: M. Logan; B. Goode, J. Parsons, A. Hitchin, G. Lee, P. Croome, C. Staunton, A. Debling, N. Defty, R. Cuthbert, A. Booth.
Umpires: K. Rowe and C. Brine (Southern Counties).
* A Purple

Boxing

Jones must have right on his side against Laing

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

If Colin Jones's right hand is not back to its old whiplash form for the Welshman's defence of his British and Commonwealth titles against Kirkland Laing, of Nottingham, at the end of April, all the European and world title dreams of Eddie Thomas, Jones's manager, could vanish.

The fact that on Tuesday night at the Wembley Conference Centre Jones gave his injured right hand the day off and collared Mark Harris, of Guyana five times with the left before finally catching him for good and all in the ninth, does not mean it will be the same against the stylish and clever Laing.

Against Laing, Jones will need his right to cut off the slippery Nottingham boxer's escape route. If the Welsh double champion is in the kind of reticent mood he was in on Tuesday night, Laing will pick him off with his quick, long reach. Last April Fools Day when they met Laing was so far ahead by the ninth that the bout could easily have been stopped in his favour, instead of the other way round, if the contest had been a 10 rounder.

Terry Lawless, Laing's manager, thinks he has found Jones's weakness and he and Laing are going to sit down and watch a video of the BBC film of Jones's bout with Harris. If there is nothing wrong with the Welshman's hand, as he keeps insisting there is not, Mr Lawless and Laing will know only half the answer.

The Oxford and Cambridge match, which according to the *Daily Mirror* was in danger of being called off this year because of a misdemeanour by a member of the Cambridge team, will go ahead tomorrow at Cambridge. Richard Whiteley, of St John's College who stepped into the ring against Cambridge Police on February 11 was discovered after the bout to have used the medical card of Stephen Speke, of Fitzwilliam College.

The matter was reported to Mid Anglia ABA, who suspended the Cambridge captain, Neil Ashford (Corpus Christi), and secretary, *Christopher Neil Jones (Gonville* and Caius). Yesterday they learnt that the suspension had been lifted but that they had been fined £10 each by Mid Anglia. No action could be taken against Whiteley because he is not a member of the Cambridge University Boxing Club. Mr Neil Jones said yesterday, on hearing the news: "I see it as a gesture against lax administration. We are going to be rightening up on medical cards."

Leeds err to give Brighton winning goal in final

By Joyce Whitehead
Brighton Poly 2 Leeds Poly 1

All the goals came in the second half in the final of the British *Polytechnics Championship* yesterday when Brighton Polytechnic beat Leeds Polytechnic at Lilleshall National Recreation Centre. Brighton Polytechnic, represented by Chelsea College of Physical Education from Eastbourne, were playing in the championship for the first time. Leeds reached the final two years ago.

The match had a slow, careful start and both teams seemed afraid of the artificial surface, which was new to them. Brighton occasionally worked some intricate moves whereas Leeds looked more determined but could not keep possession. Neither side used the whole of the pitch.

Jo Seidelin, the Leeds left wing, was starved of the ball for much of the game. Julie Oldbury, the Brighton right wing and captain, playing a good seven yards inside the pitch, had several long runs but preferred to pass rather than shoot and there were *few cross* passes of any substance.

Five minutes after half time, Sandy Lister scored a good goal direct from a corner to give Brighton the lead and give a spark to the game. Caroline Fletcher equalized for Leeds

Beverly Reid shot from a hand stopped corner, the Brighton goalkeeper was out of position and Mandy Franks stopped the ball on the goalline. However, Miss Fletcher seized on the clearance and the ball flashed into the back of the net. Play by then was a little less inhibited and an error by three Leeds players enabled Pat Hoyle to score the winning goal.

The men's final was won by Sheffield who beat Wales Polytechnic 3—0.

BRIGHTON POLYTECHNIC: I. Millard, S. Goodwin, S. Hill, M. Franks, A. Faulkner, C. Rollings, J. Oldbury (capt), C. Williams, P. Hoyle, S. Lister, J. Smallwell.
LEEDS POLYTECHNIC: H. Bonlans, D. Nicholson, K. Taylor (capt), J. Tonasby, C. Edwards, S. Porter, C. Fletcher, C. Rase, K. Sullivan, B. Reid, J. Seidelin.
Umpires: S. Fisher, C. Perry.

Motor rallying

Mikkola leads the way

Estoril, March 4.—The seventh Portuguese *Port Wine Rally*, a punishing four-day event, saw three of the 106 starters drop out in the first two heats today. Yves Loubet (France) was pushed out by a mechanical fault in his Ford Escort, while two Portuguese drivers also succumbed.

The four-stage competition has a total of 46 heats in Portugal. The Finn, Markku Allen, also ran into trouble early on, limping on with his damaged Fiat abarth 131 after leaving the road in the *Sintra hills*. His countryman, Hannu Mikkola, in an Audi Quattro, was performing at his best. Mikkola, the 1979 winner, led the way after four heats.

OFFICIAL STANDINGS (four heats, first stage): 1, H. Mikkola (Finland) and A. Hertz (WG) Audi Quatro, 12 mins 33 sec; 2, A. Vatanen (Finland) and D. Richards (GB) Ford Escort, 12-40; 3, H Toivonen (Finland) and I. Gallagher (GB) Talbot Lotus, 12-40; 4, A. Bettega and M. Perissinot (Italy) Fiat Abarth 131 12-44.

Golf

Logan is not deceived by speed of the greens

From Lewine Mair
Vale do Lobo, March 4

On what appeared to be the perfect golfing day, Garry Logan of Seahouses was one among only a handful of professionals to post an improved second round in the 54 hole Longshot pro-am. Logan, who has won two of these pro-ams in a row and three since the turn of the year, added a four *under par 67 to his opening 69* to take a one-shot lead over Scotland's Jim Farmer.

What deceived almost everyone was the speed of the greens. *Bryon Hutchinson*, who had opened with a 66, had no fewer than five three putts in today's 75, and Christy O'Connor was sufficiently unnerved by the *slippery surfaces* to drop four shots to par over the first nine holes.

Logan looked to be in trouble when he followed a three putt on the ninth green with a drive into the trees on to the 10th but his short game over the closing holes was nothing short of remarkable. His long game, he feels, is suffering from the fact that Mick Maull, the caddie who was with him throughout his winning streak in January and February, has returned to Britain after a debilitating dose of food poisoning.

LEADING INDIVIDUAL SCORES: 136: G. Logan (Seahouses), 69, 67; 137: J. Farmer (Duddingston), 72, 65; 140: E. Murray (Walton Heath), 69, 71; 141: B. Hutchinson (Moortown), 66, 75; V. Hood (Bramley), 73, 68; C. O'Connor (Royal Dublin), 68, 73; 143: K. Hall (Cannon Brook), 72, 70; R. Emery (Kingsdown), 69, 73.

LEADING TEAM SCORES: 231: C. O'Connor; 267: G. Logan; 258: J. Farmer.

For the record

Golf

LANGLEY PARK: Aer Lingus schools tournament, qualifying round: 1, Dulwich College, 238; Colfe's School, 244; 3, Kemnal Manor Upper, Sidcup, 245. Best individual: A. Poper (Trinity) and D. Sidley (Kemnal Manor), 74.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Atlanta Hawks 100, New York Knicks 93; Chicago Bulls 128, New Jersey Nets 102; Los Angeles Lakers 96, Kansas City Kings 98; Boston Celtics 117, Dallas Mavericks 105; Milwaukee Bucks 115, Detroit Pistons 93; Washington Bullets 112, Utah Jazz 93; Portland Trail Blazers 117, Indiana Pacers 112.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Calgary Flames 6, Washington Capitals 3; New York Islanders 8, Edmonton Oilers 8; St Louis Blues 4, Boston Bruins 2; Colorado Rockies 5, Hartford Whalers 2.

Leading goalscorers

FIRST DIVISION: S. Archibald (Tottenham H), 23; J. Wark (Ipswich T), 20; G. Crooks (Tottenham H), 17; J. Feshanu (Norwich C), 17; S. Moran (Southampton), 17; M. Robinson (Brighton), 17; G. Shaw (Aston Villa), 17; K. Dalglish (Liverpool), 16; P. Mariner (Ipswich T), 16.

Snooker

Indian sign over Higgins after defeat by Taylor

Dennis Taylor repeated his Irish Championship victory when he beat Alex Higgins 3—0 in the first match in group three of the Yamaha Organs Trophy at Derby Assembly Rooms yesterday. Taylor compiled breaks of 32, 31 and 33 in winning the first frames and had a 69 clearance to win the second. He completed his whitewash with a 48—43 victory in the third.

It was a different Higgins, though, in his second match against Fred Davis. In only four and a half minutes he made a 93 clearance in the first frame and a 98 in just six and a half minutes to win the second. He went on to complete a 3—0 victory. The winner of the four-man round robin grup will go through to tomorrow's nine-frame semi-final round.

Kirk Stevens, the Canadian, literally sprinted into the semi-finals on Tuesday night. Stevens miscalculated the starting time of his final group two match, against the former world champion Terry Griffiths, and had to be summoned from his hotel room by telephone. He ran the half mile from the hotel but showed no signs of this effort by making clearances of 63 and 40 on the way to a 3—0 victory.

GROUP TWO: M. Hallett beat W. Werbeniuk 2—1 (45—83, 92—36, 73—48); T. Griffiths beat Hallett 3—1 (35—95, 69—3, 69—39); K. Stevens beat Griffiths 3—0 (80—43, 86—53, 83—50).

GROUP THREE: D. Taylor (Blackburn) beat A. Higgins (Belfast) 3—0 (105—21, 59—15, 48—43); Higgins beat F. Davis (Stourport) 3—0 (118—9, 98—39, 74—33); K. Edmonds (Cleethorpes) beat Davis 2—3 (77—51, 39—64, 82—45).

Stock Exchange Prices

Technical rally

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 2. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, March 16. Settlement Day, March 23

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

THE SCOTCH OF A LIFETIME
The Buchanan Blend

BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
98 15/16	91	Exch	8½% 1981	98 15/16	..	8.349	12.625
98 15/16	91	Exch	9¼% 1981	98 15/16	..	9.602	12.197
96¼	85½	Exch	3% 1981	95⅝	..	3.129	12.491
100¾	93 5/16	Exch	12¾% 1981	100 5/16	+1/16	12.710	12.221
97 7/16	88	Treas	8¼% 1980-82	97	+1/16	8.762	12.242
95¼	81¾	Treas	3% 1982	94⅞	..	3.162	8.749
102¾	90½	Treas	14% 1982	101 13/16	+1/16	13.734	11.946
95¼	85⅞	Treas	8¼% 1982	95⅜	+⅛	8.649	12.119
96	85¾	Exch	9¼% 1982	95 7/16	+1/16	9.681	12.476
94⅞	84⅛	Exch	8¾% 1983	94½	+⅛	9.360	12.169
89	76½	Exch	3% 1983	88⅞	+⅛	3.377	9.329
99 5/16	85¾	Treas	12% 1983	99⅛	+¼	12.105	12.505
93 15/16	84⅛	Treas	9½% 1983	93 5/16	+1/16	9.893	12.477
102¾	94¼	Exch	13½% 1983	101 9/16	+3/16	13.293	12.761
93 15/16	84⅛	Exch	10% 1983	93 7/16	+3/16	10.689	12.817
87⅞	76⅛	Fund	5½% 1982-84	86⅞	..	6.312	10.949
97 7/16	86⅛	Exch	11¼% 1984	96 5/16	+¼	11.726	12.835
104 5/16	94½	Exch	14% 1984	102⅞	+3/16	13.626	12.915
80⅞	63¼	Exch	3% 1984	80¼	..	3.738	10.224
99⅞	88	Treas	12% 1984	97⅞	+¼	12.260	12.745
109¼	97⅞	Treas	15% 1985	106⅞	+⅛	14.036	12.730
75	68 15/16	Treas	3% 1985	74¾	+⅛	4.015	10.586
MEDIUMS							
103¼	89½	Exch	12¼% 1985	97 11/16	+3/16	12.524	12.867
97½	93½	Exch	11¾% 1986	96⅞	+⅛	12.192	12.749
90⅞	76⅛	Treas	8¾% 1984-86	86⅞	..	9.960	12.327
105⅞	90⅝	Exch	13¼% 1987	101⅞	+⅛	13.209	13.168
81½	70¼	Fund	6½% 1985-87	80½	+⅛	8.303	11.528
[illegible]	91¼	Treas	12% 1987	97⅞	+¼	12.788	13.427
[illegible]	71⅛	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	79⅛	+¼	9.866	12.481
[illegible]	54⅛	Trans	3% 1978-88	64¼	+¼	4.708	10.140
[illegible]	82⅝	Treas	11½% 1989	90⅝	..	12.775	13.599
[illegible]	57⅛	Treas	5% 1986-89	66½	+⅛	7.744	11.623
101¼	89½	Treas	13% 1990	99	+½	13.370	13.546
[illegible]	69½	Treas	8¼% 1987-90	77⅝	+⅛	10.743	13.960
90⅝	81⅝	Treas	11¾% 1991	90¼	+¼	13.292	13.934
[illegible]	57½	Fund	5¾% 1987-91	63⅞	+⅛	9.005	12.036
[illegible]	77⅞	Exch	11% 1991	58⅛	+⅛	13.072	13.891
104½	86⅝	Treas	12¾% 1992	95⅛	+⅛	13.619	13.904
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas	10% 1992	80	+⅛	12.555	13.635

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES

Talbot brings forward plan for Horizon, page 24

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

How industry pays over the odds for energy, page 25

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 500, up 3.8
FT Gilts 68.66, down 0.18

■ **Sterling**
$2.1985, down 75 pts
Index 98.7, down 0.8

■ **Dollar**
Index 100.6, down 0.7
DM 2.1355, down 225 pts

■ **Gold**
$464.50, down $8

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 12¼-12⅛
3 mth Euro $16⅞-16⅜
6 mth Euro $ 16½-16¼

IN BRIEF

Hopes rise of new agreement on cocoa

The chances of a new international cocoa agreement coming into effect rose after what delegates to a London meeting of the International Cocoa Organization (ICCO) described as a "conciliatory statement" by the Ivory Coast.

Delegates agreed to adjourn the meeting until April 6, so avoiding a decision on what to do with the $220m (£100m) buffer fund which has technically been in liquidation since the expiry of the old cocoa agreement in March 1980.

Informal discussions will be held on the rule for operating the buffer stock, should the agreement reached in Geneva last November come into operation.

The main area of discussion is likely to be the minimum buffer stock intervention price of 110 cents a pound. The Ivory Coast, the world's biggest cocoa producer and exporter, has argued that the floor price is too low. Without the Ivory Coast's participation it is *difficult to ratify the agreement.*

Worker participation

A big increase in attempts by *employers to consult with* their workforces is revealed in a British Institute of Manage*ment survey. About 90 per cent* of companies employing 1,000 or more had some form of participation scheme.

Writ for British Steel

British Steel Corporation has been served with a writ by the steel unions which seeks to prevent it from implementing the MacGregor "survival" proposals for the Velindre tinplate works near Swansea.

Steel protest, page 24

NEB 1,500 pc profit

The National Enterprise Board has sold its 30 per cent shareholding in Automation and Technical Services (Hold*ings) to Innotech Investments,* a new investment company, for £806,250. This represents a *record percentage profit for an* NEB disposal of 1,512.5 per cent, based on the April 1978 investment of £50,000.

Lonrho's Fraser bid

Lonrho's £158m takeover bid for the House of Fraser stores group was approved by a majority of Lonrho shareholders yesterday. Lonrho was bidding 150p a share, but if the Mono*polies Commission* allows, it will be free to come back with a new offer.

BNOC Dubai venture

The British National Oil Corporation will take an equity share in an oil concession in Dubai Emirate of the United Arab Emirates held by Atlantic Richfield's Arco Dubai subsidiary, *The Gulf News* newspaper said.

Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 971.44, up 5.42 on Wall Street yesterday. The $=SDR exchange rate was 1.22609 *while* the £=SDR rate was 0.553540.

BL to cut 24,000 more jobs in next two years, MPs are told

By Edward Townsend

BL will cut about 24,000 more jobs in the next two years before the company is back on the road to recovery, Sir Michael Edwardes, the chairman, told a Commons select committee yesterday.

He said that the state owned company's United Kingdom labour force, now down to about 120,000, had fallen by an aver*age of 1,000 a month since he* took over in 1977 "and will go on dropping until it reaches an all time low at the end of 1982".

Sir Michael's manpower forecasts are certain to cause considerable disquiet and widespread opposition among trade union leaders, particularly as the Government has just agreed to provide a further £990m of state funds to finance the company's development and reorganization plans for the next two years.

At the end of this month, BL is expected to announce results for 1980 showing losses of about *£400m compared with £122m in* 1979.

Sir Michael said that after 1982 *the company would begin* to recruit workers again. A 10 per cent increase in productivity was envisaged this year and next and further gains would be made in 1983 as the volume of vehicle production rose with the introduction of new models.

But he wave warning that employment at BL would "never reach the sort of levels we had before within the next 10 years".

By the end of 1982 he expected the company, which has a worldwide labour force of 140,000, to be employing just over 100,000 and keeping in *work an additional 200,000 in* component supply companies.

Sir Michael said he had been "*astonished*" *at the way man*ning levels throughout BL had been reduced without a single strike. In the past three years 57,000 jobs had been lost. In the car business alone fixed costs had been cut by £150m a year between June last year and 1981 and capacity reduced by 300,000 to 400,000 units a year.

He praised BL workers for their big "contribution to the future" by negotiating wage increases of less than 10 per cent for three years running. *During the terms of the last* two governments the company had had "extremely modest" wage settlements for all employees. BL's present four year plan, supported by the Government, forsees the need for a further £150 million injection of capital in 1983/84 (bringing the total to £1,140m) by *which time the company should* be breaking even and on the way to recovery, Sir Michael *said.*

Sir Michael, giving evidence to the Commons Industry and Trade Committee, said that the bulk of the company's recent problems had been caused by the high external value of the pound.

If exchange rate and inflation assumptions that were made for the *1980* corporate plan *had* pertained — and the National Enterprise Board, which owns the majority of BL shares, *had* found them "conservative and pessimistic" — BLs profits would have been £1,700m higher. "And the £1,140m would not have been needed at all".

The impact of exchange rates had been traumatic. The 1976 Ryder plan had envisaged injections of public funds totalling £1,000m and that £1,400m would be raised by BL internally. In the event, Sir Michael said, the company raised nothing and the bulk of internally gen*erated funds went into exchange* rates.

The £990m injection was the *minimum required in the next* two years and the extra £150m was "very small beer".

Linwood closure 'unlikely to sway Datsun decision'

By John Huxley

Peugeot's closure of the Tal*bot car plant at Linwood, Ren*frewshire, is unlikely to influence Nissan in its choice of a *site* in the United Kingdom for a new £300m plant to produce Datsun cars, MPs were told yesterday.

Sir Peter Carey, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry, said there was nothing contradictory in the decision of one company to plan investment in the British motor industry while another was cutting back. He added that there was no reason why Scotland should not *provide a suitable site* for Nissan.

"The weakness for Linwood was probably that it represented a split of activity at a time when, for the British motor industry, it would have been better to have had concentration."

By contrast, Nissan will be coming in to build a *single new* plant. Sir Peter said that Linwood's investment incentives were *crucial in attracting com*panies such as Nissan. He was giving evidence to the Com*mons* Committee of Public Accounts on the effectiveness of the Government's regional policies.

Earlier Sir Peter accepted that research to determine the overall benefits of the policies was "inconclusive". Since 1971 regional incentives had cost about £5,000m.

He told the committee that, taken over a long period, evidence suggested that regional policy had made a "substantial contribution" to the economies of the areas involved. But he added that in assessing the net benefits it was difficult because of a lack of regional data to distinguish *whether* improvements were due to specific regional or general national *policies.*

"The evidence available suggests that regional policy is effective in influencing the direction rather than the level of investment.

"We are not just sitting back and saying, 'it is all to difficult, we cannot measure the effectiveness of the money we are spending.' We want to make sure as much as the committee does that we are getting value *for money.*"

But he gave a warning against making changes in the framework of regional policy. "I have found that the single feature to which industry attaches importance is that it knows where it stands."

He expected the present regime to be maintained *through the life of this* Parliament.

Horizon plans, page 24

Call for biotechnology backing

By Bill Johnstone

The private *sector has a sub*stantial responsibility in the exploitation of biotechnology, *according to a government* White Paper published yesterday.

Government policy outlined in the paper comes in response to a report last March by the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development (ACARD), the Advisory Board for Research Councils and the Royal Society.

The study group on biotechnology was chaired by Dr Alfred Spinks, formerly director of research at ICI.

The paper praises the work on biotechnology which has already been conducted by a number of British companies including Glaxo, Beecham, ICI, Rank Hovis McDougall and Tate and Lyle.

But the paper emphasizes that in future: "The Government looks to the private sector to exploit British scientific and technical discovery and build up its competitive position by importing good developments through licences or otherwise as well as from its own research and development."

Biotechnology is used in a variety of forms to create, under controlled conditions, foodstuffs and medicines.

The Government has also recognized the need for coordinating the activities of its *departments in biotechnology.*

Picture by Brian Harris

Trade unionists, industrialists, and members of the Government around the table at yesterday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council. *In the foreground are (from left) Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry; Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer;* Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director-general of the National Economic Development Office; and Sir Peter Parker, British Rail chairman.

Mr Heseltine to open talks with councils on purchasing policies

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environ*ment, is to discuss government* purchasing policies with local authorities shortly as part of a *campaign to help industry.* This and other commitments were outlined by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, in a progress report given to the National Economic Development Council yesterday.

Sir Keith promised that his own department would develop contacts with at least 80 leading companies in the next few months to discuss impediments to government contract tender*ing. In particular, he hoped* that public purchasing officers, including those in nationalized *industries, would make more* use of British Standards when drawing up specifications.

Department of Industry officials also are to carry on talks with individual National Economic Development Office (NEDO) sector working parties and with trade associations.

Plans include a combined Department of Industry, Insti*tute of Purchasing and Supply* and NEDO seminar for senior public sector purchasing officers. The public sector is to be encouraged to rely more on its suppliers' research and development efforts or to contract out more of its research requirements to the private sector.

The Advisory Council for Research and Development recommended a shift in the balance of research and developmen carried out by purchasers towards that carried out by *their suppliers. Sir Keith said* that the Government would respond positively to the council's *recommendations.*

The progress report was the *result of a request at the July* meeting of the NEDC that the *industry* secretary should be kept informed of progress on public purchasing improvements.

"*In my view we have made* a sound start in putting the purchasing policy into effect", Sir Keith told the meeting.

"I am encouraged by industrialists who *have* told me recently that they had seen distinct changes in practice among individual purchasers, for instance by engaging in meaningful dialogues with suppliers and by setting specifications which take account of *other markets.*

"I am pleased that the supply council for the National *Health Service has now been* established. This should do much to improve procurement *practices in this area.*"

Budget may reduce industry's energy bill

Continued from page 1

Energy ministers have stressed that the electricity industry will have to cover its costs, and that the British Gas Corporation's price structure will remain market-related. But within that framework, the Government sees scope for greater flexibility and some relief.

It is widely expected that the Chancellor will cut excise duty on *heavy fuel oil which* at £8 a tonne is among the highest in Europe. Other measures may *include alterations in fuel tariff* structures of special discounts for high energy using industries, *both of which are possible with*in present legislation.

The NEDC report was warmly *welcomed last night by the in*dustries which have been pressing for action. Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, emphasized that it was important for the Government to act promptly.

The report confirmed that, for large users of gas, United Kingdom prices were 10 per cent to 15 per cent higher on average than those in other European countries; electricity prices were in some cases 10 per cent to 35 per cent higher than in West Germany and France; United Kingdom foundry coke prices were 30 per cent higher *than in Europe generally*

Other EEC countries subsidized their home-produced coal by at least £30 a tonne more than the United Kingdom. Oil product prices in the United Kingdom were also higher for mosst of last year, and although in recent weeks prices have been more in line with Europe, *the position remained "volatile".*

Last night Mr Martin Trowbridge, director-general of the Chemical Industries Association, said it was regrettable that the report had not been available last autumn when it had become obvious that energy price disparities had built up to levels which seriously affected the United Kingdom's competitive position.

"*Even taking the general* levels of prices quoted in the report as a very conservative basis, the cost to the United Kingdom chemical industry of end year differences amounts to about a 170 million a year compared with our major continental competitors", he said.

ICI, one of the country's biggest single users of energy which pays a £700m a year energy bill, emphasized the *need* for "very urgent attention and action by the Government".

The British Steel Corporation and the British Independent Steel Producers Association, in a joint statement, said that the Government should insist on creating a competitive situation in the United Kingdom energy market.

The nationalized utilities and the oil companies should be encouraged to compete actively with each other and with their Continental counterparts.

European companies, the steelmakers said, realized that their industrial customers were in direct competition within and outside the EEC with customers of other countries' utilities.

Leading article, page 17
Paying over the odds, page 25

Pound slips in nervous trading

By Frances Williams

Leading currencies see-sawed on nervous and volatile foreign exchange markets yesterday. The pound, which followed Tuesday's upward trend against *the dollar during the morning, fell back in afternoon trading* to close 75 points down at $2.1985.

The pound lost rather more ground against other leading currencies, with its effective *exchange rate index falling 0.8* to 98.7.

The pound's movements *largely mirrored those of the* dollar. The United States currency was sharply weaker yesterday *morning, reflecting* lower Eurodollar interest rates. These apparently were influenced by remarks by Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, on the sluggish state of the American economy.

But the afternoon decision by the German federal bank to keep open its special 12 per cent Lombard facility, under which it supplies funds to the *commercial banking system,* prompted a late fall in the Deutsche mark, against which the dollar is *chiefly measured.*

After falling 4 pfennigs against the mark at one stage, *the dollar ended London* trading down 2¼ pfennigs at DM2.1355.

Gold closed at its lowest level since December, 1979, dropping by $11.50 to $464.50 an ounce.

Giro service joins clearing banks

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

National Girobank, the banking arm of the Post Office, is becoming the tenth member of the London Bankers' Clearing House, the system through which banks transfer cheques *among themselves.* Mr Samuel Wainwright, Girobank's managing director, said yesterday that *it would take two years fo rthe* membership to become fully operational.

Girobank is now setting up a central clearing department and will also open a clearing branch at its offices in the City. This will involve the setting up of the necessary data processing and administrative *facilities.*

The next step will be for Girobank to join the Bankers' Automated Clearing Services and offer its business customers direct access to the service. This will enable customers to transfer payments directly through a data-processing operation.

*Girobank is already a mem*ber of the payment and wages working group formed by high street banks to encourage companies to pay through direct credit accounts at banking institutions. It also aims eventually to change the present weekly wage payments to a monthly basis.

Girobank officials believe that the entry into the clearing *system* is a further move towards the provision of full banking services to customers. In recent years it has enlarged its facilities and now provides most of the day-to-day banking services personal customers need, including loans of up to £3,000.

The Post Office launched its Giro system 12 years ago and over the period it has grown significantly. The system now exchanges 100 million cheques with other banks and it is the growth of the business that has prompted the membership of *the clearing house system.*

At present Girobank is clearing its cheques through its centre in Bootle where they are sorted out and accounts are credited or debited and settlement is eventually made with other banks through an account at the Bank of England.

Business Diary, page 25

Norton Warburg offshoot agrees to assets freeze

By Our Financial Staff

Norton Warburg Investment Management, part of the Norton Warburg Group which announced it was going into liquidation two weeks ago, agreed to a temporary injunction freezing all its United Kingdom assets in the High Court yesterday.

The company, which is said to have a deficiency of £2.5m on the accounts of its London clients, is being sued by several groups *of the 360 investors.* Some are seeking the appointment of a receiver and others want their share portfolios returned.

Mr Justice Dillon adjourned *the applications to a date yet* to be fixed.

Norton Warburg Investment Management is a *wholly-owned* subsidiary of the Norton Warburg Group, which was set up eight years ago to provide investment management services and financial advice, and now handles £16m of funds.

Its clients include high*earning pop stars such as Robin* Gibb of the Bee Gees and at one time members of the Pink Floyd pop group.

Norton Warburg Group confirmed last month that the holding company and three of the six subsidiaries were being put into voluntary liquidation.

There is no connexion between Norton Warburg and S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank.

There is no connexion between Norton Warburg and S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Burnett H'shire	45p to 968p	Ultramar	18p to 511p
Diploma	7p to 175p	Unilever	13p to 488p
Eurotherm Int	10p to 303p	Unitech	8p to 256p
Moss Bros	10p to 195p	Wadkin	7p to 83p
Ransome Sims	15p to 156p	Whitecroft	5p to 57p

Falls

Cons Gold Fields	5p to 423p	Ldn Sumatra	5p to 371p
De La Rue	15p to 660p	ML Holdings	8p to 335p
Ferranti	5p to 540p	Mercantile Inv	3p to 59p
Grindlays Hldgs	10p to 168p	F Pratt Eng	6p to 114p
Jarvis J.	5p to 190p	SGB Group	7p to 138p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.96	1.88
Austria Sch	35.00	32.80
Belgium Fr	81.75	77.75
Canada $	2.73	2.64
Denmark Kr	15.45	14.65
Finland Mkk	9.50	9.00
France Fr	11.42	10.92
Germany DM	4.88	4.64
Greece Dr	116.00	110.00
Hongkong $	12.25	11.65
Ireland Pd	1.33	1.27
Italy Lir	2360.00	2250.00
Japan Yn	486.00	460.00
Netherlands Gld	5.39	5.13
Norway Kr	12.45	11.80
Portugal Esc	127.00	121.00
S Africa Rd	2.05	1.91
Spain Pta	197.00	188.00
Sweden Kr	10.72	10.17
Switzerland Fr	4.46	4.23
US $	2.27	2.20
Yugoslavia Dnr	82.50	77.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Japanese workers and employers prepare for pay demands ceremony

Tradition prevails at the time of the rising wage

Japan is getting ready for *the annual shunto or spring* wage offensive with labour leaders and managements pro*posing conflicting strategies* for checking inflation and expanding the economy.

The shunto reaches a *climax* in mid-April when thousands of workers hold street rallies and *sometimes lock their* bosses out of offices and factories.

In the group-minded Japanese *society, both sides* want to win public approval for their arguments about the *size of the wage rises.*

The main labour unions are jointly seeking a 10 per cent *increase this year.*

For the first time since the shunto started in 1956, the unions last year put forward a unified claim, for 8 per cent, just as Japan was overcoming the worst effects of sharp increases in imported oil prices during the previous 12 months.

The unions eventually accepted average wage increases of 6.7 per cent last *year, which some labour leaders* regarded as a defeat but was seen by many economists as a big factor behind Japan's reasonably sound 1980 economic performance.

The average Japanese worker received 263,380 yen (£560) a month last year, which was a 0.9 *per cent drop* in real terms, the first decline since 1952 when the Labour Ministry began *regular surveys* on wage levels. However, annual wages including summer and year-end bonuses rose a nominal 7 per cent.

Labour leaders say their 10 per cent demand is designed to cover the fall in real wages last year, and thus help to stave off effects of further price rises in fiscal 1981.

The unions have defended their *demand* by maintaining that such an increase is necessary to help expand domestic consumption, which accounts for more than half of Japan's gross national product.

Some economists believe the fall in real wages slowed domestic consumption, which caused sluggish car sales and a decline in the rate of increase of housing starts, forcing the economy to rely for growth largely on higher exports.

The government's outlook for fiscal 1981 calls for real economic growth of about 5.3 per cent against an estimated 4.8 per cent in fiscal 1980.

The Federation of Employers' Associations, without giving managements guidelines for salaries, already has rejected the reasoning behind workers' demands.

But the shunto confrontation bentween management and workers does not illustrate real relations between the two sides, which are very coopera- Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime tive. Minister, last year said: "Japan is not blessed with natural resources, but we have a splendid resource called labour-management relations of which other countries are envious."

Ikuo Anai

THE PRESTIGE GROUP LIMITED

Mr. David Lawman reports on 1980

The following is an extract from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. D. J. T. Lawman, which has been circulated with the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1980.

Group sales for the year of £64,815,000 showed an increase of 4.1% compared with last year's total of £62,250,000. Group profit for the year before taxation was 8.1% lower at £5,669,000 (1979 – £6,169,000).

The results for 1980 reflect the severe reduction which took place in consumer demand at home starting in the second quarter of the year, accompanied by substantial customer destocking. Furthermore, the strength of sterling had an adverse effect on the profitability of export sales and on the results of overseas subsidiaries in sterling terms.

The Board is recommending a final ordinary dividend of 17.5% making a total for 1980 of 27.5% (1979 – 27.5%). This dividend is covered 2.8 times by profit attributable to shareholders.

1980 IN BRIEF	1980 £'000	1979 £'000
SALES	64,815	62,250
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	5,669	6,169
EARNINGS PER SHARE	19.2p	20.3p

Copies of the 1980 Accounts and the Chairman's Statement may be obtained from the Secretary, The Prestige Group Limited, Prestige House, 14-18 Holborn, London EC1N 2LQ. The Annual General Meeting will be held in London on 26th March, 1981.

Prestige

Manufacturers of 'Prestige' 'Skyline, 'Ewbank', 'O-Cedar', & 'Old Hall' household products.

Overseas companies operating in Australia, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, Spain, Sweden.

Move to advance assembly of cars in Britain to attract fleet buyers

Talbot speeds up Horizon plans

Talbot, 70 per cent of whose United Kingdom car sales are accounted for by fleet and company buyers, is advancing plans to assemble the French-made Horizon in Britain to replace its biggest fleet seller the Avenger.

Avenger production is to cease in May with the closure of the Linwood plant, leaving a gap of eight months before the British version of the Horizon is available.

The car has been on sale here for nearly two years but almost all purchases have been by private motorists. Fleet and company buyers have made it clear that without a "Made in Britain" label if only partly true, they cannot justify large scale purchases in the present economic climate.

Mr George Turnbull, chairman of Talbot. UK, said yesterday: "A number of big fleet customers have told us that the Horizon would be a very attractive proposition for them if it was made in Britain. We are pushing ahead with plans to have the Horizon in production at Ryton before the end of the year with the engine being built at our Stoke plant and containing a significant proportion of British components."

Stoke also produces engines for the Avenger and Sunbeam models which will be discontinued with the closure of Linwood. This has led to concern among the 3,400 employees there that the workforce would be progressively reduced. However, a number of recent developments, including Horizon engine work, now make this unlikely.

The most significant development is the dramatic improvement in shipment of engines, gearboxes and axles to Iran. Soon after Peugeot acquired Chrysler UK (since renamed Talbot) the Iranian revolutionary authorities stopped all shipments on the £150m-a-year contract.

Reduced shipments resumed last year only to be interrupted by a 12-week strike in the Coventry factories. Iran's war with Iraq halted shipments again but the biggest blow was the bombing of the Iranian car plant on the outskirts of Tehran. The Iranians at first said the damage was minor but later admitted serious disruption of production. Repairs taking several months have just been completed.

Mr Turnbull said yesterday: "The black-out prevents them working two shifts but with the advent of lighter nights, production is now being increased from 300 cars a day to 350 with a target of 400-plus. That will take us back to pre-trouble days and will make a significant difference to our profitability. We now hope to be back in profits sometime next year."

He has persuaded the Iranians, with whom he worked as a consultant for over a year, to take the Avenger engine in place of the much older Hunter power unit allowing production to continue at Stoke after Linwood closes.

He has also won contracts to supply Avenger engines to two further Iranian companies who will be producing 20,000 pick-up trucks a year. Half of them are Japanese Mazdas and Mr Turnbull claims that this will be the first instance in the world of a western engine displacing a Japanese one.

When Linwood closes in two months' time with the loss of 4,800 jobs Talbot's United Kingdom labour force will be down to only 10,000 compared with 23,000 in January, 1979. This has led to speculation that Peugeot sees its future as a sales and marketing outlet for French-made cars.

Mr Turnbull, vehemently denies this. "Peugeot said at the beginning and they still say now they wish to maintain a significant manufacturing presence in the United Kingdom. They have never deviated from that policy and they are doing it for very good reasons. This market is swinging more and more in favour of companies who have a manufacturing base here. If Peugeot withdrew it would have a dramatic effect on our sales."

Mr Turnbull has a further two years to run on his four-year contract and despite recent rumours to the contrary has every intention of seeing it through.

Clifford Webb

W Germany may breach steel policy

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, will raise the issue of government subsidies for steel products granted in some Community states at the next EEC summit meeting in Holland on March 23 and 24.

If strict accords on subsidies and voluntary production cutbacks could not be agreed by the end of the month. Germany may be forced to contravene EEC rules guaranteeing a unified policy on steel, sources said.

Community industry ministers resolved yesterday that no new state aid schemes could be introduced after July 1, 1983.

The West Germans said the curbs did not go far enough and would have to be strengthened.

General Motors loss

General motors said it lost $539.3m (£234m) in Europe in 1980, compared with net income of $338.2m in 1979. The European loss was said to be the largest part of its $762.5m 1980 net loss.

Israeli pay rise

Most Israeli employees will see their income rise 25 to 30 per cent next April, through a tax cut and a cost-of-living wage increase of 19.5 per cent. But Israelis are more highly taxed than the citizens of 59 other countries.

EEC inflation up

The European. Economic Community registered a one per cent increase in its inflation rate in January, with France and Greece having the highest figures.

German jobless

West German unemployment fell 8,646 in February to 1.30 million—5.6 per cent of the labour force. It was the first monthly fall since September, 1980.

China to raise $48m

China plans to tap the Japanese capital market for the first time later this year to raise the equivalent of about $48m (£21.6m) through a privately-placed yen denominated bond.

Hoover to make 900 redundant

By John Huxley

Hoover, the domestic appliance manufacturer, is to make about 900 workers redundant at its three factories in Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales, Cambuslang, near Glasgow, and Perivale, London.

Last week the company, which is 71 per cent owned by Hoover of Ohio, announced a pre-tax loss for 1980 of £2.75m.

About 300 jobs will be lost at Merthyr Tydfil, where the workforce totals 3,800. There will be 400 redundancies at Cambuslang out of 2,700 jobs, and 200 at Perivale, out of a total of 1,500.

At the start of this year the company's British workforce numbered slightly over 10,000, including marketing and administrative staff.

The redundancies come after a lengthy period of trading difficulties, which resulted in the shedding of more than 1,000 jobs last year, about 580 of them through redundancy, and the introduction of short time working for the entire workforce in September.

Yesterday, a company official blamed the latest redundancies on a combination of adverse factors, including falling demand in the domestic market and the strength of sterling, which has made exporting more difficult.

Hoover claims 40 per cent of domestic cleaner sales in the United Kingdom and about 35 per cent of the market for washing machines. Both declined during 1980, the former by about 8 per cent and the latter by about 4 per cent.

At the same time imports have climbed steadily. Last year imports of cleaners rose by about 50 per cent and now take about 36 per cent of the United Kingdom market. Other domestic appliance makers have also been forced to introduce short time working and declare redundancies, and no manufacturer has been unable to secure price rises. Stocks are now standing at their highest level for several years.

Top earners worst hit under Labour

By Frances Williams

Incomes became more divided during the period when the last Labour Government was in office, according to official figures published yesterday.

The share of income before tax of the top 1 per cent fell from 6.2 per cent in 1974-75 to 5.3 per cent in 1978-79. But the share of the bottom 10 per cent also declined, from 2.6 to 2.4 per cent.

Instead, the relative loss of the top 1 per cent was largely reflected in relative gains by the 9 per cent immediately below them.

The effects of taxation scarcely change the overall picture. The share of the richest 1 per cent fell from 4.5 per cent in 1974-75 to 3.9 per cent in 1978-79, as did that of the poorest 10 per cent, from 3.1 per cent to 2.9 per cent. At the same time the income share of the next richest 9 per cent went up.

Since the war there has been a consistent decline in the income share of the top 1 per cent. The next 9 per cent has remained fairly steady (though tending to increase over the past decade or so), while that of the 40 per cent of wage earners below has risen sharply to more than 50 per cent in 1978-79 from about 43 per cent in 1949.

Those in the bottom half of the income distribution have seen their share of the income cake remain almost constant over the 30 years, despite the enormous rise in real incomes in the period.

The official figures, given in an article in *Economic Trends* published yesterday by the Central Statistical Office, show that in 1978-79 more than three-quarters of personal income before tax went to families in the top half of the income distribution.

US forum to study economy

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 4

A fresh attempt has been made to establish a forum for direct discussions between leaders of American business and trade unions.

After a year of negotiation a formal labour-management group was announced today by Mr Clifton Garvin, chairman of Exxon and head of the business roundtable, and Mr Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL-CIO national trade union organization. They said the government had not been invited to participate. Mr Kirkland said that this was likely to be advantageous as both sides of industry searched for common ground on economic policies.

The last such effort at a labour-management dialogue collapsed in mid-1978 when the trade unions ended talks after particularly bitter lobbying in Congress by business groups against labour law reform.

The new group is being chaired by Professor John Dunlop, of Harvard University, a former United States secretary of labour. He stressed today that every other industrial nation in the world had a forum for labour-management talks.

The group would not become involved in contract negotiations of any kind.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Poor results at ICI

From Mr D. N. Lawson

Sir, I notice that ICI blame only causes beyond their control, i.e., the Government, the world recession, the exchange rate, for the poor results. Presumably they did not think we would believe them if they ascribed the poor performance to the phases of the moon or to the malign influence of the plants.

I had always believed that one of the key features of senior management was the necessity to make decisions about the real world where Governments do act, recessions and over-capacity do occur, oil is found in the North Sea, and growth rates cannot be extrapolated forever; that ICI directors were paid so highly because they could make the necessary decisions correctly and they were then responsible for the consequences of those decisions. It is fairly obvious from the results that the key decisions have been wrong more often than they have been right. Had the decisions been taken by tossing a coin, the laws of probability suggest that half the decisions would have been correct. That would appear to be a better success rate than the present senior management have achieved, and at a much lower cost!

Such a method would cause problems of deciding where the responsibility for decisions lay, but under the present scheme ICI senior managers do not have personal responsibility for the consequences of their decisions. Perhaps the shareholders ought to try to persuade them otherwise.

Yours faithfully,
D. N. LAWSON.
1 Bradgate Road,
Brooklands,
Sale, M33 3GW.
February 28.

Exonerating sugar

From Mrs E. Lewis

Sir, Possibly Mrs Gaddum (restricted sugar choice, February 20) will be glad to know the following facts. The pure substance obtained from the sugar cane is sucrose. The pure substance obtained from the sugar beet is similarly sucrose. Both are marketed as granulated sugar and are in the pure state, aside from a negligible percentage of water. The failure of preserves to set will not have been due to the sugar, as such, but to one or more of the usual culinary causes of this occurrence.

Yours faithfully,
E. LEWIS,
14 Elphinstone Road,
Hastings,
East Sussex, TN34 2EF.
February 23.

Standards at Chinese hotels

From Mrs Helen Arrowsm Brown

Sir, In the Business Diary February 26 your corres dent stated that because Chinese had so far allowed Western firms to hotels within their borders Western standards most acc modation there is awful". statement is as inaccurate is complacent.

With very few excepti Chinese hotels are clean, rooms are comfortable, food good, plenty of hot w is provided and the servic cheerful, efficient and c teous. Tipping is consid an affront. I was sad to h this "awfulness" for H. kong.

Certain Western hotels vide a recent average stan but have no individuality. sad that the West seeks to pose its uniform and some dreary standards on other p of the world.

Your sincerely,
HELEN ARROWSMITH-BROWN,
17 Macaulay Buildings,
Widcombe Hill,
Bath BA2 6AT.
February 26.

Problems of nuclear reactors

From Professor J. W. Jeffery

Sir, Professor Fremlin (letters, February 24) tries to prove too much. He indicates that in 20 years' time we may be using twice as much electrical energy as at present and that we should aim to have 90 per cent of it generated from nuclear power. This would involve starting building five large nuclear stations every year from now until 1994—70 in all. But fortunately there is an alternative indicated by the letter in the same issue from the Energy Coordinator of the Royal Institute of British Architects on promoting energy conservation (a subject not mentioned by Professor Fremlin).

Conservation and increase in the efficiency of energy use in industry and transport would allow us, as the IIED study showed, to double production while actually decreasing our primary energy consumption. This is all without any significant contribution from renewable sources. But there are about 200 square miles of roofs on houses in this country and something of the same order on commercial and industrial buildings, so solar panels allied with the building of local fluidized bed power stations by the power construction industry and the use of waste heat for district heating would easily satisfy the demand for electricity and low temperature heat.

The use of the intermittent power of wind, wave and photo-electric sources will be helped by all forms of storage, including electric vehicles. If we include biotechnology, already producing half of Brazil's "petrol" for new cars, it is perfectly possible to see how an adequate energy future could pe achieved without the dangers of nuclear power development.

The dangers are not only of proliferation of nuclear weapons, although that is by far the greater threat to mankind, but nuclear power is peculiarly dangerous in itself. It is the only example I can think of where man deliberately starts something he cannot stop. It is not generally realized that a nuclear furnace cannot be completely shut down. Immediately after a large nuclear power station is "scrammed" while on load, for any reason from grid failure to a catastrop loss of coolant, the heat tinuing to be generated in the nuclear furnace from ra active decay, and complet unstoppable, is equivalent four of the largest open he electric furnaces used in British steel industry. decay heat declines rapidly first, but even after 24 ho it is equivalent to a medi size steel industry furnace 15MW. After that the decl is very slow and even now a two years the problem of k ing the Three Mile Island c cool is a major preoccupat of those attempting to clear the accident.

It is this unstoppable h the partner of the unquer able radioactivity which been developed in the nucl furnace, that is the reason the major safety problems nuclear reactors.

Yours, etc,
JIM JEFFERY,
Department of Crystallograp
Birbeck College,
University of London,
Malet Street,
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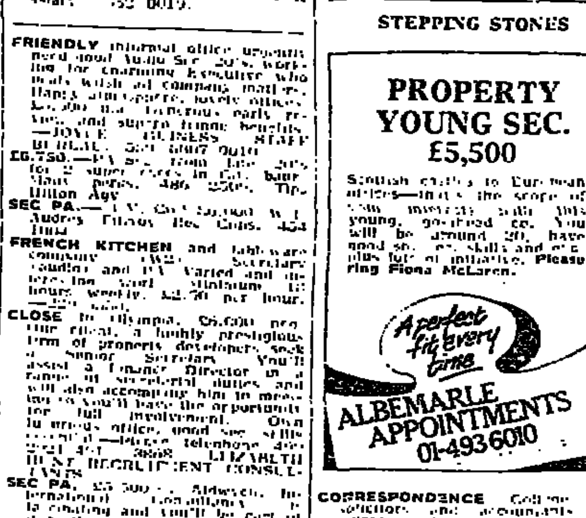
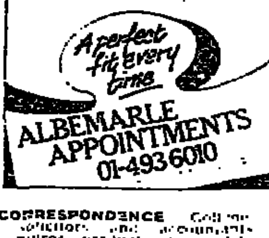
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ANIMALS AND BIRDS

(continued on page 32)



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Cons Gold's rich seam

Appropriately, gold has enabled Consolidated Gold Fields to maintain its record of raising profits and dividends faster than inflation.

Despite falls in the first half contributions to operating profits from base metals and most of the manufacturing interest, pretax profits were up 16 per cent at £76.2m, and the dividend is increased by the same *percentage to* 12.1 gross. Measured by earnings per share, the performance was better; up 20 per cent to 30.3p, allowing for the rights issue.

The reliance on gold is very clear. Earnings from the 47 per cent stake in Gold Fields of South Africa were £22.8m compared with £10.9m, and dividends from direct holdings in South African mines more than *doubled as well* to £14.8m. These results more than offset the decline in other sectors.

The biggest fall, though expected, was in construction materials, at Amey Roadstone. Operating profits fell £5.2m to £19.5m, reflecting a collapse of demand caused partly by the reduction in public spending. The results also include £2m for redundancies and closures.

The American drilling equipment and the Azcon scrap metal interests did well, but on balance the other manufacturing and commercial operations dropped £1.9m to bring in operating profits of £11.7m.

In all, the industrial business contributed 37 per cent of operating profits against 51 per cent in the first half of last year. Even though the base metals fell by £5.2m to £3.8m, largely because of low tin and copper prices and strikes at Renison, the whole mining sector increased its share from 36 to 49 per cent.

What these results show is that diversification works both ways: industrial profits can fall as well as rise. With little hope of industry doing better in the first half of 1981—Cons Gold's second half—and with the gold price similarly depressed, the company will be lucky to beat inflation again.

The market realised this when, after marking the shares up 37p at one point, they closed 5p lower at 423p. Assuming a dividend increase over the whole year of 15 per cent the yield is about 8.7 per cent. But, in the meantime Cons Gold is likely to have told shareholders how it intends to spend its rights issue proceeds.

● *Lazards is continuing to reap the benefit of the breakthrough it made with the financing of the Hongkong Mass Transit Railway through the first foreign-currency buyer-credit package denominated in the currency of the buyer three years ago. Yesterday the merchant bank announced that it had arranged an ECGD-backed loan for HK$244m to finance Metro-Cammell's contract for the MTR's latest extension.*

The great attraction of this deal was that since the Railway's income was in HK dollars it laid itself open to big currency risks in taking out sterling debt.

Indeed the first stage of the MTR was financed in sterling and the currency scars are now showing up in the accounts. For the second stage of the development the authorities made sure they would repay debt in the same currency in which they were getting their revenue. And for the third stage "Island line" this form of financing is a "pre-qualification for contracts".

There is every indication that but for this procedure, and the flexibility and co-operation of Britain's ECGD, British contractors would not have got a look in on the contracts. To date Lazards has netted 1,100m worth of ECGD-backed HK$ finance which has proved less onerous for the United Kingdom clearing banks than other foreign currency deals arranged through the ECGD since it does not have to be refinanced through the Eurocurrency markets.

General Accident

Star turn

Justifying its star rating among insurance composites, General Accident is the only one of the big three United States-oriented groups to report increasing profits. A full-year gain of 7 per cent to £92.3m pretax compares with falls of seven and 25 per cent respectively reported recently by Royal and Commercial Union.

But after a year in which overall underwriting losses spiralled from £18.2m to £27m GA seems no more sanguine about near-term prospects for the industry than either of its rivals.

Reflecting its bias towards less volatile personal lines business, GA has fared significantly better than CU and Royal in the United States. A tiny fourth quarter surplus *reduces the year's deficit* to £4.5m against £1.1m previously producing a statutory operating ratio of 101.5 per cent which is a few points below the industry average.

At the same time milder weather has reduced household and motor claims slashing the United Kingdom deficit from £10.3m to £2.4m. But severe competition has hit the group hard elsewhere, particularly in Australia and Canada and here as in the United States, the group thinks conditions will worsen before they improve.

Investment income, however, continues to take the strain showing a rise of 14 per cent to £119.2m, while strong equity markets and relatively modest premium growth—12 per cent excluding currency movements—have helped put 7 points on the *solvency margin at 59 per cent.*

Despite ferocity in world markets, General Accident's high quality business portfolio should enable a further profits advance possibly to £105m this year. But the real key to GA's current attractions lie in its dividend paying capacity. A 12½ per cent dividend increase produces a yield of fractionally under 6 per cent on the shares, up 2p to 324p. This is almost three points below that offered by Royal and nearly four below CU, but GA's payment is three times covered compared with less than twice in the case of the other two groups.

This extra flexibility points to much sounder prospects for dividend growth and should ensure GA continues to outperform its rivals. Despite some hopeful recovery buying in recent weeks, however, scope for further progress by the sector as a whole could be constrained until clearer signs emerge that competition worldwide is peaking.

Ransomes

Vulnerable to spending cuts

Ransomes Sims & Jefferies which makes heavy grass-cutting and specialised agricultural equipment, is one of those rare birds, an engineer making positive advances despite the recession.

But a sales gain of 16 per cent to £49m which has produced 8 per cent more profit at the operational level is all slightly soured by that bugbear of the industrial sector—high interest rates, not only here but also in the United States where Ransomes' business has local borrowings.

By the time these have taken their toll—and interest charges are up from £1.9m to £2.8m—1980 profits run out at £2.3m, down by 19 per cent.

Taking the view presumably that interest rates will continue to fall through 1981—on borrowings that have apparently been "contained at a slightly lower level" than in 1979 when gearing stood at approaching two-thirds—and that with sterling coming back, hard won export business will produce more satisfactory margins, Ransomes is now sticking its neck out and hoping for "comparable" results this year.

That looks possible; a heavy retrenchment programme involving a 30 per cent cut in the workforce over the past 12 months has obviously taken out substantial overhead albeit at the cost of a £0.92m exceptional item below the line this time.

There is one important snag though. Ransomes is heavily dependent in the United Kingdom market for its contract grass cutting equipment on public authorities. Obviously they are not going to be such ready buyers as in the past.

The market brushed aside that doubt yesterday and the shares gained 15p to 156p in what is a thin localised market. Here, Ransomes is yielding 10.2 per cent and selling at only 3 times latest stated historic earnings, after the tax credit, a cautious rating that looks justified this side of the Budget and the next EEC farm prices round which has a bearing on spending by farmers.

Economic notebook

When success is not what it seems

From their positions on the opposite sides of the divide in contemporary economics, the "Keynesian" National Institute and the "monetarish" London Business School, have arrived at some similar conclusions. They agree that Britain is likely to see three million peopl jobless next year, for the first time for half a century. They also agree that th rapid *decline in the inflation rate* will be arrested at a level not much below 10 per cent.

The National Institute is marginally the more optimistic, predicting that the rate of inflation may inch down towards 8 per cent in the final three months of 1982, comparing price levels with those of a year earlier. This means that between 1979 and 1982 unemployment will have much more than doubled, while inflation will have been less than halved (comparing the levels in the fourth quarter of each year).

Such, then, has been the cost of the Government's "success" in reducing the rate of price increases. Even this success has *partly involved undoing* the harm that ministers have themselves done.

This is because a substantial amount of inflation has been injected directly into the economy by the Government. According to Lord Kaldor, giving evidence to the House of Commons Treasury and Civil Service Committee last summer, the Government had contributed 6 to 8 per cent to the cost of living through tax changes and other policy measures.

Other economists have suggested that the government contributed to inflation is at the upper end of the Kaldor band.

The indirect tax increases alone in the June, 1979, and March, 1980, Budgets, added more than 5 per cent to the retail price index. The Government also abolished price controls, administered by the Price Commission.

It is not possible to quantify the effect on prices of this act, but it is unlikely to have been insignificant. The Trade Union Research Unit at Ruskin College, Oxford, has pointed out that cament increased in price by 40 per cent in the first yeor of price freedom (May, 1979-May, 1980). Brick prices as a whole rose by nearly as much—37 per cent—and one company increased its brick prices by as much as 45 per cent.

It is not, however possible for these industries to argue that they were passing on exceptional cost increases, as the official index of materials and fuel purchased by these industries showed an annual rise of t25 per cent.

Interest rates

The increase in interest rates has been a further factor affecting the retail price index.

Minimum lending rate was raised from 12 to 14 per cent in June, 1979, and raised further to 17 per cent in November of that year. It stayed at that level until last summer.

This raised costs in industries, which will have been passed on in higher prices wherever possible. The rise in house mortgage rates is alone calculated to have added 1 per cent to the retail price index.

Also, government policies have forced nationalized industries to raise their prices by much more than the general increase in prices. The increase in nationalized industry prices is certainly not oll due to high wage settlements in these industries.

Between June, 1979, and June, 1980, the prices of goods and services produced mainly by nationalized industries rose 29 per cent, but average weekly earnings of men employed in public corporations rose by 22 per cent between April, 1979, and April, 1980.

But this is, of course, not all that the Government has itself done to raise prices. The cuts in expenditure which Treasury ministers have tried to impose on local authorities, and the reduction in the Exchequer's contribution to the financing of such expenditure, have led to large increases in local rates. In April, 1980, rates were increased by an average of 27½ per cent for domestic properties and 23 per cent for businesses.

This, together with higher mortgage rates and higher rents, produced a 30 per cent *rise in the court of "housing"*, as recorded by the retail price index, between mid-1979 and mid-1980. Furthermore, there have been increases in many charges for social services—*prescriptions, school meals and* the like.

Thus, it seems quite probable that when the year-on-year increase in the retail price index hit its peak last May of 22 per cent something over a third of that rise was attributable to the actions of Government.

Wage claims

Part of the recent fall in the inflation rate has occurred because, after 12 months, the *initial* impact on the index of some of these government actions is no longer captured by the conventional year-on-year measure of price changes—the first-round effects "drop outs" of the calculation.

But the effects are longer lasting than ministers admit. It is a widely adopted practice when trades union leaders are formulating wage claims, to base them on changes in the retail price index over the preceding year. Thus, Government-induced price increases are built into wage demands and have "secondary" effects on the level of inflation.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, insisted that there was no case for this, when he raised the rate of value-added tax in his first Budget, because workers had received compensating reductions in income tax. But, *in fact, both of Sir Geoffrey's* Budgets have increased taxation in real terms. The 1979 one did so largely by raising marginal rates, the 1980 one by reducing the real value of the tax credits.

If the Government's contribution to the retail price index between mid-1979 and mid-1980 was indeed of the order of 8 per cent points, its success in reducing inflation looks decidely less impressive.

What the rate of inflation would be today without the government contribution is difficult to say. If, for example, interest rates had not been increased, the exchange rate would have been lower. The higher exchange rate has helped to hold price increases down by lowering import costs.

It might also be argued that if the Government had not taken the action that it did, then public spending and borrowing would have been even higher, leading eventually to bigger price increases or still higher interest rates, with a commensurately more depressing effect on output.

But the Government's fiscal and monetary policies have themselves pushed up its borrowing through their effect on output.

If inflation cannot be driven below 8 per cent at the trough of the business cycle, it is hard to believe that it will be pushed lower when, or if, any recovery comes along. Moreover, a sizable fall in the exchange rate has begun to look increasingly likely, thanks, in part, to the miners. This will drive inflation back into double figures.

High unemployment, on the other hand, will remain with us. Few, surely, will claim that such a small gain on the inflation front has been worth the cost.

Melvyn Westlake

How industry is paying over the odds for its energy supplies

Trawler owners are a canny lot. They have to be. Almost every month a fresh problem emerges to threaten their livelihood. It may be Russian factory ships vacuuming up sprats off the Thames estuary or Brussels bureaucrats carving up the off-shore waters to their detriment.

In these recessionary times skippers must keep a weather eye on the fuel bills, which account for an estimated 30 per cent of operating costs. A trawler skipper operating out of Aberdeen would have been paying £172 a tonne for marine diesel oil at the beginning of this year; at the Humber ports he would have paid £131 a tonne and at Lowestoft £153.

But across on the Continent the same marine diesel would have cost £120 a tonne. For gas oil, too, used mainly by the coastal trawler fleet, bunkering costs would have been much cheaper than those available in home ports.

The French and Italian fishing fleets receive a subsidy—in the case of the French amounting *to 10 centimes (about 9p)* per litre. It is said that more than one trawler has found it worthwhile to sail across the North Sea for bunkers, rather than pay the United Kingdom rates.

This discrepancy in bunkering costs for the fishing industry is among the more bizarre to emerge from the report of the National Economic Development Council's energy "task force", set up in January in response to growing criticism of British industry's energy costs.

Energy-intensive industries, like iron and steel and chemicals, have highlighted the disparity in energy costs between the United Kingdom and the Continent. It is a disparity which these industries, together with the paper and board and foundry industries, claim is putting United Kingdom companies at a competitive disadvantage.

Despite the growing clamour from the Confederation of British Industry and individual trade associations, the Department of Energy, and Mr Norman Lamont, the Energy Minister particularly, seemed deaf to the accusations.

The tripartite task force of Whitehall officials, industry representatives and trade unions has done its job well, cutting through a jungle of conflicting statistics to identify the *subsidies available to Britain's continental* competitors. It has assembled a report to which the Government must respond.

The only significant area of disagreement, perhaps predictably, has been over gas.

After months of prevarication, Mr Lamont earlier this week took up the energy pricing cause at the EEC Council of Ministers meeting — to the delight of the industries concerned. The French and West German governments, he claimed, were charging their manufacturing companies uneconomically low gas and electricity prices. He hoped that the Commission would investigate the "facts" and report *back in June.*

The Commission should use the "task force's" report as its starting point.

Industry accounts for about 40 per cent of final energy consumption in the United Kingdom and the prices of electricity and gas for more than 95 per cent of industrial customers are "broadly in line" with those on the Continent. These users represent 50 per cent of industrial electricity consumption by volume and 15 per cent of industrial gas consumption.

GAS PRICES FOR THE STEEL INDUSTRY (November 1980)*

(Customers purchasing 2 million therms a year) Pence per therm

	Firm	Interruptible
UK	25.1	21.3
Belgium	19.5-20.5	17-18
France	20	20
Germany	19.4	17.7
Italy	19.5	16.5
Netherlands	20	—

* Not agreed by the British Gas Corporation as representative.

> • For an important group of energy-intensive users UK gas and electricity prices had moved significantly ahead of those being charged to some major competitors on the Continent by the end of 1980"
>
> *NEDC Energy Task Force report*

But for the small, but important, group of energy-intensive industries which have been the focus of the task force investigation—accounting for some of the remaining 50 per cent of electricity consumption and a significant proportion of gas—United Kingdom prices had moved out of line with those charged on the Continent by the end of last year and heavy fuel oil remained "volatile".

So what has emerged from the task force's investigations into the particular problems of this group? The report shows that electricity prices—which are of particular interest to the steel and chemical industry—are at present 20-35 per cent lower in France than in England and Wales; German prices are up to 25 per cent lower at high load factors.

Over the short term the strengthening of the pound *against the franc and the* deutsche mark has been a significant factor, but other elements underlying the present discrepancy include the relative cost advantage of France's nuclear power generation and hydro-electricity. In West Germany tariff structures favour high load consumers

For the foundry industry the price of coke has been a big source of worry. Coking coal costs represent 6-7 per cent of the selling price of castings. The task force concluded that United Kingdom foundry coke is 30 per cent more expensive than the average in most European countries and more than 50 *per cent* dearer than in France.

Nor only have exchange rate factors played a part, but subsidies are again a component, compounded by indirect help for coke oven output. The task force noted that United Kingdom subsidies are less than the maximum permitted under the rules of the European Coal and Steel Community.

Another factor forcing up United Kingdom prices is the requirement of National Smokeless Fuels to operate at "arm's length" from the National Coal Board and recover its costs through prices, at a time of falling demand and rising unit costs.

But it is in the area of heavy fuel oil that industry is looking for the first real concession. It wants a cut in the excise duty on heavy fuel oil in next week's Budget (complete removal would cost the Exchequer £350m).

But beyond short-term relief the oil issue poses a longer term problem for the Government because "interruptible" gas prices are linked to the price of heavy fuel oil, and "firm" gas supply contract prices are related in part to the price of gas oil.

There are a whole range of other factors which have lifted fuel oil prices above the levels prevailing in other European countries—among them differences in transport and distribution costs and in the cost structure of individual companies.

It is on gas prices that the task force had the greatest difficulty in arriving at representative comparisons. As one insider observed: "We had the impression that the British Gas Corporation approached the task force exercise with no intention of agreeing anything."

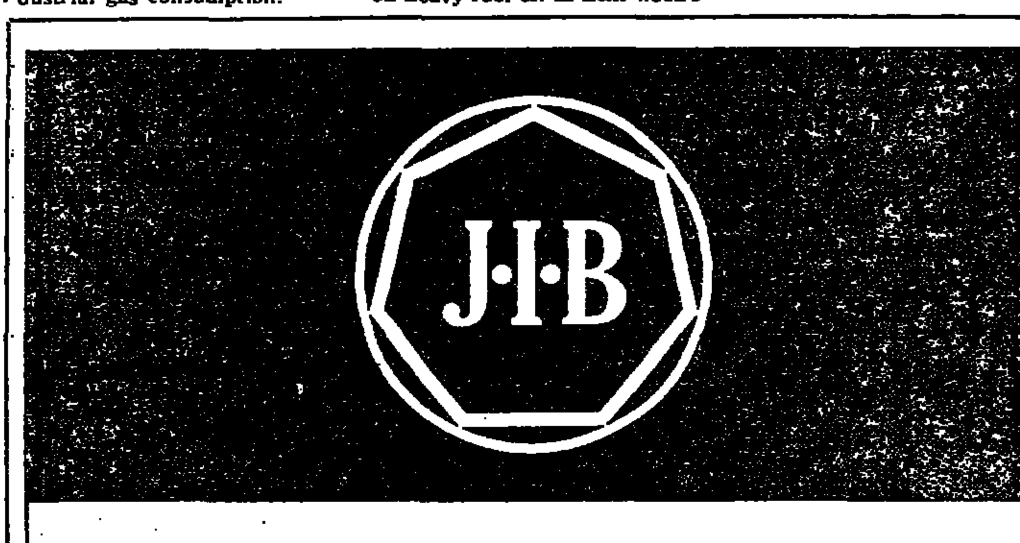
There remains a basic disagreement between the BGC and its major consumers on the impact and degree of the linkage between firm gas supplies and gas oil or other oil products in different countries.

The task force secretariat has *concluded* that by the end of last year gas price disparities with the Continent were on average 2p-3p per therm (or 10 per cent) for interruptible supplies and 3p-5p a therm (or 10-20 per cent) for firm gas contracts. That represents an overall cost disadvantage to United Kingdom users on an average *weighted basis of at least* 10-15 per cent.

Ministers can therefore expect the energy-intensive industries to press them to act on earlier NEDO recommendations that the gas corporation should demonstrate a willingness to restructure its tariffs and negotiate discounts to large users similar to those available to continental consumers. The NEDO also asked the corporation to review "and redress" the present imbalance under which industrial gas customers are the only ones in Europe to pay more than domestic consumers.

The task force has rooted out the facts on energy price *discrepancies. But in many respects* the real debate has only just begun.

Peter Hill.



Extract from Accounts at 31st December, 1980

	1980	1979
	£000	£000
Issued Capital	10,800	10,800
Retained Profits	6,388	5,244
Subordinated Loans	4,194	4,497
Deposits	377,358	357,130
Loans	222,954	230,835
Total Assets	411,756	387,801
Profits before Taxation	3,841	3,139
after Taxation	1,792	1,500

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Business Diary: Girobank's Wainwright • Gold-diggers of 1981

For Sam Wainwright the vigorous managing director of Nationa Girobank yesterday's announcement that the Post Office's *banking ofspring is to* join the London Bankers' Clearing House marks the great leap forward for the poor relations of banking.

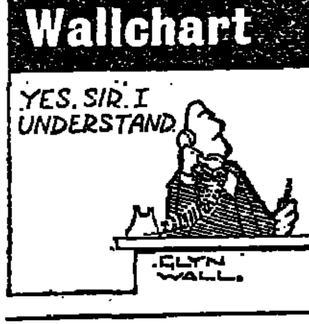
A former financial journalist and merchant banker. Wainwright, who hts been at Milk Street since 1977, is one of the new breed of Post Office chiefs who prefer action to precedent.

He made Girobank's voice heard on the Committee of London Clearing Bankers—a a working group on payment of wager.

While involved in the preliminary discussions with the London Clearing Bankers' Committee about this advance Wainwright will delegate its implementation. He is more concerned with his next project, the setting up of seven regional offices o bring Girobank account management nearer to large company customers.



Sam Wainwright



● If you are in line for a handshake and want to make sure that it is of the golden, rather than the leaden, variety then you could do worse than invest 60p in the latest edition of *Labour Research*—unless, of course, *there is a copy in the* company library.

The journal—published by the trade union-sponsored Labour Research Department—has done a breakdown of 37 golden shakes totalling more than £4m over the last few years.

You can see what *the going* rate is from a table listing the lucky lads, which is topped by Sir Brian Massy-Greene, of Consolidated Goldfields (£250,000) and trailing off with Pat Matthews (First National Finance) and Gerald Harding (Bibby Line), who each got £50,000.

The star company is Dalgety, which paid £100,000 each to Robert Paul, Norman Rigby and William Shaw.

Perhaps even more interesting are £3.5m pay-offs to persons unknown (£2.1m handed over by ICI in 1979 alone) as "pensions, commutations of pensions and gratuities in respect of executive services of former directors".

Tarmac is listed as having made similar payments of £215,000, Cavenham of £170,000 and Unigate £156,000 and there are lots, lots more. The point the Labour Research Department seeks to make is that for the workers the maximum state entitlement to redundancy pay after 20 years in one job is £3,900—as long as the State Redundancy Fund holds up.

One thing Japan is not making smaller these days is the Japanese themselves. A survey by the local government statistics bureau there shows that the height of high school boys has exceeded 170 cms (about 5 ft 7 ins) for the first time on record. They also weigh about 10 lb more on average than 20 years ago—owing mostly to eating more Western food.

● The Consumers' Association has planted the seed for an addition to its range of *Which?* magazines. If it germinates successfully, *Gardening Which?* should blossom in 1982.

As yet, the organization's deputy director Rosemary McRobert emphasizes, the project is "highly embryonic". Advertisements are out to recruit the first diggers in the field, but no final commitment to the horticultural project will be made until mid-June.

The association's interest in gardening arises from a poll of its 600,000 members, but it also hopes that the magazine will introduce it to a completely new readership.

Gardening being a chancy and seasonal business, the Consumers' Association has to get down to the nitty-gritty right away if it is to have any crops to report on in 1982. The project may involve it in buying its own garden and trial beds if its attempt at propagation proves that it really does have green fingers.

● John Bremridge, 31 years in the Far East, mostly in Hongkong, bowed in yesterday as the Crown Colony's new Financial Secretary—its Chancellor of the Exchequer—and offered his sympathies to all companies who have been getting their fat Chinese contracts cancelled.

"The Japanese and Americans jumped up and down about the contracts they had won and then they collapsed, but if anything is required in dealing with China it is patience".

Bremridge, chairman of the Swire Group—one of the two trading "Hongs" that dominate the island's activities—until he retired last November, sees no diminution in trading activities between China and Hongkong.

Bremridge, 51, succeeds Sir Philip Haddon-Cave who moves up to Chief Secretary in Hongkong. Sir Jack Cater, the present Chief Secretary, will be Hongkong Commissioner in London later this year.

Shareholders at yesterday's AGM of Grand Met at the Lyceum in the Strand not only received the customary vouchers for goodies with their copies of the annual report but were invited to stay on for drinks at the close of the meeting, which most did. When, half an hour later, the hint that "we are now having to close the bar" went unheeded, there came over the loudspeaker a strident version of the National Anthem. It had the desired effect.

Ross Davies

Stock markets

Unilever leads technical recovery

Some of the pre-Budget optimism returned to cheer the market yesterday in what looked like a modest technical recovery in most sectors, despite only small investment buying.

With the dividend cuts from both ICI and Unilever, dealers are now looking more definitely to a reflationary Budget next week. They are hopeful of emphasis on aid to industry in the form of changes in energy costs and taxation. But, the feeling is that the market will continue to behave erratically until Budget day.

The *FT* Index showed the firm start to the day by climbing 6.3 points to 502.5 by noon. After falling back to 500.9 by 3pm the Index closed ahead on the previous day at 500.0, up 3.8.

Gilts did not show the strength of the leading equities sector, despite the initial advances on opening of up to £½. Longs reported a very quiet day rising to £½ but settling during the day to close lower by about £⅛. Shorts drifted through the day to close £⅛ off on most prices in thin conditions but rises were thought to have been gained after hours.

Leading equities, the first to feel the squeeze over the last two days, led the rally in the morning with rises throughout the blue chips. Shares in **Unilever** were the outstanding feature. Despite Tuesday's dividend cut, they picked up 15p during the day to recover all lost ground to 490p and closed easier at 487p.

Following suit, **ICI** rose 4p before dropping back to 250p, **Pilkington** rose 8p to 300p, and **Beecham** scored a 5p rise to 166p before closing at 165p. **Glaxo** was 2p higher at 292p, **Lucas** added 4p to 194p and **Metal Box** gained 8p at 182p. **BAT** was up 3p at 285p and **Grand Metropolitan**, after yesterday's annual meeting, was 3p higher at 183p. **Bowater** advanced 4p to 209p and **Rank Organisation** was up 4p at 182p. Dealers reported good two-way trade.

Among companies reporting, **Ransomes Sims** advanced 15p to 156p on better forecasts than expected but **Matthew Clark**, maintaining the interim, lost 2p to 136p on lower profits. **Consolidated Gold**, initially up to 437p on interim profit increases, fell back to 423p, with expectations of lower full-year results due to the gold price. **Ewart New Northern** climbed 10p to 180p on 33 per cent profits growth.

Rumours of an eventual bid at **MDW Holdings** pushed shares 7p higher at 78p and **Whitecroft** rose another 5p to 57p on the sale of its subsidiary. **Burnett & Hallamshire** jumped another 45p, on news of the United States acquisition, to close at 988p.

It is fast becoming a case of when, and not if, a bid is made for Davenport Brewery, currently valued by one leading broker at over 200p a share. Talk of a 180p-a-share bid from Grand Metropolitan was yesterday superseded by rumours of a bid from Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries. But Mr E. J. Thompson, chairman and managing director, said it was news to him. The shares closed unchanged at 132p.

News that Bardsey has pulled out of **F. Pratt**, selling its stake to 600 Group, left shares in Pratt lower by 6p at 114p. Otherwise, speculative buying saw **Sangers**, the optics group, rise 8p to 60p, **ML Meyer** 3p to 83p, **David Dixon** 4p to 126p, and **Pritchard** 4p to 145p.

Suspension of dealings in the **Williams Hudson** group at the Stock Exchange Council's request left shares at 95p, pending a circular on recent acquisitions.

Jobbers in the engineering sector reported a reasonable day with two-way trade. The sector saw small gains throughout, but news of a strike at Clydeside saw shares in **John Brown** knocked 3p to 74p. Meanwhile, **Vickers** put on 1p at 164p, **Tube Investments** was 4p higher at 194p, and **Hawker Siddeley** added 2p to 290p.

It as the second-liners in the electrical sector hich sa most of the movement. On reflection, **Diploma** added 5p to 173p after results on Tuesday and **Unitech** followed gaining 8p to 256p. **GEC** was 1p better at 646p, **Racal** eased 2p to 359p, **Plessey** was 4p higher at 317p but **Ferranti** saw 5p lopped at 540p. **Thorn/EMI**, after rises during the day, dropped to close 2p down at 306p.

After a firm opening in the breweries sector, dealers described buying as selective with prices easing during the day, despite continued fears of increased duties in next week's Budget. Most shares rallied with **Bass** higher 4p at 214p, **Allied** was unchanged at 66½p but **Whitbread** gained 2p to 154p. **Distillers** dropped 1p to 190p.

Jobbers in insurance reported a day of panic as many speculative buyers felt they had misread the market. With indications that the sector is going to outperform the market there were gains across the board. The higher-than-forecast results and the 12½ per cent increased dividend from **General Accident** saw shares rising 2p to 324p. But GA has disappointed many with news that it is not going ex div until May. **Royal**, after results this week, was unchanged at 388p but **GRE** advanced 4p to 346p. **Sun Alliance**, reporting soon, added 2p to 806p but **Commercial Union** stayed at 158p. A drop in sterling against the dollar and other foreign currencies is still eagerly waited as insurance groups continue losing from currency translations.

Properties showed a mixed day with small gains and losses. **MEPC** was unchanged at 234p but **Land Securities** rose 3p to 398p. **Hammerson "A"** dropped back 5p to 615p and **Stock Conversion** advanced 3p to 343p.

With results due today from **Barclays Bank**, shares rose 5p to 408p since the dividend rise is already covered by the bank's public statements. All the leading banks saw gains, with **National Westminster** ahead 5p at 368p, **Lloyds** up 5p at 323p and **Midland** advancing 5p to 335p. As hopes of a bid from Lloyds fades, shares in **Grindlays** fell back by 10p to 168p.

The oil sector, out of favour with buyers recently, saw a busy day with two-way trading in thin conditions. **Ultramar** pushed ahead 17p to 510p on news of gas finds in Indonesia, a broker's circular and good profits results expected next week. The disappointing news over production forecasts from the Thistle Field in the North Sea depressed companies with holdings in the field like Burmah, Tricentrol and Charterhouse Petroleum. **Tricentrol** dropped 2p to 308p and **Burmah** was 1p up at 182p. The leaders were better, with **BP** climbing 4p to 416p and **Shell** ahead 4p at 422p. Both BP and Shell—seen as cheap buys—attracted interest and some buying was reported. **Lasmo**, however, dropped back 2p to 647p and **IC Gas** gave up 3p to 230p.

NEI looks too high at 79½p. Sentiment is helped by new nuclear reactor orders and trading is certainly better than at many engineers, but profits of around £25m this time will be below some expectations and there is little chance of an increase in the dividend.

The mining and finance stocks rallied in the morning after results from Consolidated Gold but drifted back to close generally only a little higher. Cons Gold's results are based on gold at least year's prices of around $636, and since the gold price is ow $464, profits for the current year are expected to be lower.

Equity turnover for March 3 was £161.094 (bargains 21,364).

Traditional options: Dealers reported increased activity yesterday. Calls were made in Fisons, Westminster Properties, Dunlop, Mettoy, Rothmans, Burmah, Standard Telephone and Cables, Barclays, British Aerospace, Reardon "", Beecham and Central Pacific Minerals. Puts were arranged in GKN and Tubes. Doubles were completed in Westminster Properties and Burmah.

Traded options: A total of 848 contracts were recorded. Consolidated Gold attracted 74, GEC 32, ICI a total of 135, Commercial Union 168, Land Secs seven, Lonrho 76 and Shell nine.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Matthew Clark (I)	40.9(39.2)	1.73(2.17)	3.5(10.7)	2.0(2.0)	13/4	—(7.5)
Cons Gold Fields (I)	—(—)	76.3(65.8)	30.3(25.3)	8.5(7.3)	30/4	8.5(22.5)
CSC Inv (F)	—(—)	0.18(0.17)	—(—)	4.5(3.75)	—	7.75(6.5)
Ewart New (I)	—(—)	0.02(0.01)	2.22(1.27)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Fitzwilton (I)	—(—)	0.67†(1.05†)	—(—)	2.0†(2.0†)	20/3	—(—)
General Acc (F)	980.5(907.5)	92.3(86.5)	—(—)	7.25(6.5)	1/7	13.5(12.0)
Mt Charlotte Inv (F)	11.6(9.98)	0.66(1.05)	1.36(2.78)	0.7(0.7)	1/7	0.7(0.7)
Nolton (I)	2.72(2.2)	0.03(0.10)	1.52*(2.02)	0.6(0.6)	7/5	—(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multipl he net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = Loss. † = Irish currency.

Burton Group director resigns

By Rosemary Unsworth

Burton Group's deputy managing director, Mr Brian North, has resigned from the board. Last November Mr North was replaced as finance director by Mr W. Wood and his departure was no surprise in the stock market, where the share price gained 1p to 125p.

Mr North said yesterday that he was considering one or two offers, which were not necessarily in the retail trade. He declined to give details of his compensation from Burton. "It will be in the annual accounts", he said.

Burton also confirmed that it had been in discussion with a number of people over the possible sale of its loss making French business, but so far no deal has been concluded. "It will only be fair to say that we have a deal when we have signed it", Mr Wood said yesterday.

Burton has indicated for some time that it is not interested in keeping a loss making concern and the French side lost £1m last year. However, Mr Wood added that the division, which consists of 40 stores, had recently shown some improvement although he stressed that the main consideration was its long-term future.

But he dismissed suggestions that the group was also looking for a purchaser for the Ryman chain. "It is in profit and its performance has improved and we hope that it will continue to do so.".

Matthew Clark gloomy but will hold dividend

By Catherine Gunn

With higher duties expected on alcohol in next week's Budget, Mr F. Gordon Walker, chairman of wine and spirits merchant Matthew Clark & Sons, said yesterday that it is impossible to be optimistic about the group's full-year profits. However, he does intend to maintain the total dividend, and declared a maintained interim of 2.86 gross with the eight month interim profit yesterday.

The company made a £1.73m pretax to December 31, a decline of a fifth from the previous year, in a period that saw the cognac market fall by 22 per cent, and demand for British and for champagne fall by 6 and 8 per cent respectively.

Matthew Clark has the Martell cognac agency here, and manufacturers British wines—mainly sherry—and Stone's Green Ginger Wine. It also distributes De Kuyper liqueurs and Janneau Armagnac. It increased shales force last year and went aggressively for volume this year, increasing its share of a smaller market.

Margins have suffered, however. Sales rose 4.3 per cent to £40.9m, including duty of £16.4m. The biggest profit contributor are Martell Cognac and J. E. Mather, the British wines side, which did well thanks to trading down to cheaper ries by consumers.

J. E. Mather is 52 per owned, with Bass and G Metropolitan holding 24 cent each. Of Mather's higher interim profit, £68 was due to the other hol reducing Matthew Clark's ings and dividend cover fu

Crockerton Haulage, the rier acquired last June, m £95,000 loss, of which £3 was spent on setting up a bonded warehouse.

Group borrowings are changed from a year ago, ing eased after the sea Christmas peak. But in costs are higher thanks t creased rates.

Bid approach lifts MDW

MDW Holdings, the Glasgow-based property investment and civil engineering group, saw its shares race up 20p to 91p yesterday after it announced that it had received an informal bid approach.

The group, which has a market capitalization of £6m at these levels, is not in negotiation at the moment, according to Mr H. A. Whitson, the chairman, but an offer may be made

Apart from the directors, who hold about 12 per cent of the shares, the other main shareholder is ITC Pension Trust and Investments with 10 per cent of the group.

Net assets a share are currently around 100p with cash balances estimated at around 35p a share. Interim pretax profits for 1979 amounted to £1.25m.

Romney Trust Limited

Year ended 31st December	1980	1979
Value of net assets	£43,612,119	£32.943,96
Gross revenue	£2,505,838	£2,603,30
Per 25p stock unit: —		
Net asset value	154.3p	118.5
Earnings	4.52p	3.92
Dividend	4.40p	3.70

*excluding 0.69p in respect of special dividends

The Chairman, Mr. S. G. Brooksbank, F.C.A. comments:

The strength of sterling has caused serious problems in large areas of manufacturing industry in the UK and as a result of this and a lack of competitiveness generally, the prospects for an increase in the company's franked income during 1981 are not encouraging.

The new administration in the US has co-incided with a period of recovery for the US dollar. Its economic policies may well reinforce and continue this trend which has so fa been mainly reflected in a weakness in continental currencie For UK based institutions, this would add to the attraction of investing in those overseas economies which are likely t enjoy substantially higher rates of growth than in the UK. The directors feel that a policy of maximum flexibility should be pursued

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secreta Lazard Brothers & Co. Limited, 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2H

Tate & Lyle must wait for reasonable profit

By Our Financial Staff

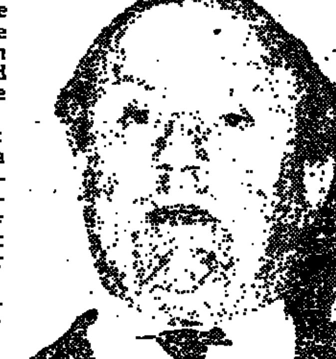
After five months of the financial year, Tate & Lyle, the sugar refiner and trader, is in generally good shape, Lord Jellicoe said yesterday at the company's annual meeting.

But he warned shareholders: "We shall have to wait for a bit longer before achieving reasonable profitability." The closure of the Liverpool refinery was deeply regretted but it should help to restore the sugar business to health.

Lord Jellicoe said that discussions were continuing with the Government and unions on saving the 1,600 jobs. But he did not expect that the refinery could be saved.

Nevertheless, the company has offered to renew its contracts with the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries for the import of cane sugar. Lord Jellicoe said most of the sugar would be refined in the United Kingdom but he hoped the ACP countries would accept some flexibility in the cane's final destination.

Tate & Lyle still has some problem areas, he went on. The agribusiness division, which lost £7.6m last year, is being put on to a sounder footing. A review of the chemicals division is under way.



Lord Jellicoe, chairman of Tate & Lyle.

Lord Jellicoe said he believed that the Liverpool refinery was the final victim of the EEC sugar regime. The new quotas, accepted by every country except Italy, would bring supply and demand in the United Kingdom sugar market more or less into balance.



William Whittingham Group

* Record Profits at £2.847m.
* Proposed Dividends increased in line with earnings, up from 6.0p (net) to 6.75p (net).
* Group net assets in excess of £8.0m.

"Cautiously optimistic of further progress in current year."

John M. Wardle, *Chairman*

Results for the year to 31st October:

£000's	1980	1979
TURNOVER	25,125	20.803
PROFIT:		
Development & Property Division	2,442	1,676
Photographic Division	1,901	1.035
Investment Income	374	237
Associated Companies	—	8
	4,717	2,956
Interest Paid	1,870	747
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	2,847	2,209
Taxation	374	29
PROFIT AFTER TAX	2,473	2,180

Copies of the accounts obtainable from: The Secretary, William Whittingham (Holdings) Ltd., P.O. Box 60, Ettingshall Road, Wolverhampton, WV1 2JT.

NOTICE OF ISSUE — ABRIDGED PARTICULARS

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the undermentioned Stock to be admitted to the Official List.

THE SUTTON DISTRICT WATER COMPANY

Originally registered in 1863 as the Sutton and Cheam Water Company Limited under the Companies Act, 1862, and now incorporated as a Statutory Company under The Sutton District Waterworks Act, 1871.

OFFER FOR SALE BY TENDER OF £3,000,000

8 per cent. Redeemable Preference Stock, 1986

(which will mature for redemption at par on 30th May, 1986.)

Minimum Price of Issue—£100 per £100 Stock

Yielding at this price, together with the associated tax credit at the current rate, £11.42 per cent.

This Stock is an investment authorised by Section 1 of the Trustee Investments Act, 1961 and by paragraph 10 (as amended in its application to the Company) of Part II of the First Schedule thereto. Under that paragraph, the required rate of dividend on the Ordinary Capital of the Company was 4 per cent. but, by the Trustee Investments (Water Companies) Order 1973, such rate was reduced to 2.5 per cent. in relation to dividends paid during any year after 1972.

The preferential dividends on the Stock will be at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum and no tax will be deducted therefrom. Under the imputation tax system, the associated tax credit at the current rate of Advance Corporation Tax (3/7ths of the distribution) is equal to a rate of 3 3/7ths per cent. per annum.

A deposit of £10 per £100 nominal amount of Stock applied for must accompany each Tender, which must be sent to Deloitte Haskins & Sells, New Issues Department, P.O. Box 207, 128, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX in a sealed envelope marked "Tender for Sutton Water Stock" so as to be received not later than 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 11th March, 1981. The balance of the purchase money will be payable on or before Wednesday, 25th March, 1981.

Copies of the Prospectus, on the terms of which alone Tenders will be considered, and Forms of Tender may be obtained from:—

Seymour, Pierce & Co.,
10, Old Jewry, London, EC2R 8EA.

Lloyds Bank Limited,
49, High Street, Sutton, Surrey SM1 1DX.

or from the Office of the Company at 59, Gander Green Lane, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 2EW.

Stroud Riley board rejects 42p offer

The board of Stroud, Riley, Drummond yesterday told shareholders to reject the 42p a share offer made by Mr Stefan Simmonds, chief executive of the textile group, who is bidding after increasing his shareholding.

Mr Simmonds, who took up his option to acquire an additional 9.1 per cent stake to bring his total holding to 38.9 per cent on Tuesday, was obliged under the City Code Rule 34 to make an offer for the remaining shares at 42p each. The share price now stands at 51p. He entered into a put and call option with Mr J. Selka, a director, and other members of the Selka family, in November last year. Once Mr Simmonds agreed to purchase the extra shares he was obliged to make an offer.

Mr Simmonds explained the offer as "purey technical". He added that he had "no desire whatsoever" for the shareholders to accept. "With the share price at 51p there is no reason for them to accept the offer of 42p", he said.

Brasway optimistic as losses are stanched

By Our Financial Staff

Mr R. A. Swaby, chairman of Brasway, yesterday told shareholders at the company hoped to break even by the year end despite the loss in the first half and reduced interim dividend.

In a letter to shareholders, he said that the group's trading position had improved after the stemming of losses in its ferrous division last October. The November figures showed an encouraging trend and December, despite being a short working month, and January had proved most gratifying.

The tube division continued to do well, all things considered, and its profit contribution of £74,000 for the nine months to January 31 helped to reduce overall losses to £114,000.

There are still three months left to achieve break even and as profits for January were £71,000 he believes the company stands a good chance of succeeding.

In the meantime, the group has acquired Woden Steel and Fasteners for £189,000 with net assets valued on a "going concern" basis of £360,000.

Exchange stops deals in Williams Hudson

The Stock Exchange took the unusual step yesterday of calling a halt to dealings in Williams Hudson Group, the oil distribution and storage group.

The shares were susyended first thing ysterday at 95p pending clarification of recent acquisitions made by the group and carried in the last set of reports and accounts. Under Stock Exchange rules, acquisitions involving anywhere round 15 per cent of a company's assets must be accompanied by a class 1 circular giving full details of the deal.

This apparently has not been forthcoming from Williams Hudson, which is headed by Mr David Rowland, who holds nearly 05 per cent of hte issued equity.

Ewart New Northern ahead for half year

Ewart New Northern reports a pretax profit for the half year to October 31 of £16,000 against £12,000.

Mr G. W. Harding, chairman of the property group, states that although the results for the current six mouths will be affected by increased maintenance costs and the reduced rate of government security grants, he expects that improved profits for the year will make it possible to recommend a final dividend of not less than 2½p. This would bring the total payment for the year to April 30 above that for the previous year.

Hunting Gibson wins control of Stag Line

Hunting Gibson's £5.3m cash offer for Stag Line has now gone unconditional. Hunting Gibson received acceptances from shareholders of Stag Line in respect of 51.2 per cent of the shares, excluding the 6.1 per cent that Hunting and Son, a subsidiary of Hunting Gibson, already held.

James Grant sale to Debenhams

Edinburgh-based house furnisher James Grant (East) is to sell its offshoot, Draffens of Dundee, to Debenhams. Draffens trades as a departmental store in Dundee. The price was £780,000.

Draffens' share capital and reserves are £610,000. Pretax trading profits of Draffens for the year to January 31, 1981, are estimated at about £30,000.

Chairman optimistic at Bakers Stores

At the annual meeting of Bakers Household Stores (Leeds), the chairman, Mr Barry Baker, referred to his statement in the annual report that the first three months of the year had been agreeably in excess of the same period last year and said that this trend had continued since Christmas. He is, therefore, confident that profits for the first half will show a "satisfactory increase."

Edinburgh American Assets Trust

Public Limited Company

Investment objective. The Company is an Investment Trust whose principal objective is **long term growth of capital.**

NET ASSET VALUE 1979-1980 + 39%
NET ASSET VALUE 1974-1980 + 354%

1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
22.6p	42.4p	55.2p	60.8p	73.2p	73.5p	102.4p

Geographical Distribution
North America 67%
U.K. 23%
Europe 5%
Rest of World 5%

Copies of Report and Accounts are available from
The Secretary
Edinburgh American Assets Trust P.L.C.
c/o Ivory & Sime Ltd
1 Charlotte Square Edinburgh EH2 4DZ

River and Mercantile Trust Limited

Summary of Results

Year ended 31st December	1980	1979	Increase %
Income			
Gross Revenue	£3,187,029	£2,923.336	9.0
Net Revenue	£1,928,818	£1,700.270	13.4
Cost of Ordinary Dividend	£1,800,000	£1.440.000	25.0
Cost of Special Dividend	–	£103.299	
Capital			
Total Assets of Company	£38,702,883	£30.904.915	25.2
Ordinary Shareholders' Assets	£36,702,883	£28.904.915	27.0
Per Ordinary Share			
Dividend Ordinary	15.0p	12.00p	25.0
Dividend Special		0.86p	
Net Asset Value	305.9p	240.90p	27.0

The Directors also propose a one for one Bonus Issue.

Overseas holdings and unlisted investments were increased during the year. The policy of the Board continues to be to increase earnings and at the same time to achieve a wider geographical spread and participation in smaller companies where opportunities for growth are seen.

While the prospects are that U.K. dividends declared during 1981 will not show the same increases as in 1980, with the substantial revenue reserves, the Directors would hope, in the absence of exceptional circumstances, to maintain the level of dividend.

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from Rivermoor Management Services, 44 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2RA.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Mount Charlotte down 37 pc for year

By Peter Wainwright

Mount Charlotte Investments, the provincial hotel and catering group steered back to financial health by Mr Robert Peel, the managing director, saw pretax profits retreat from £1.04m to £660,000, but this 37 per cent fall cloaks a late recovery in the year to December 31. In the first six months profits dived ... per cent.

Turnover rose by more than ... per cent to £11.6m but the chairman admits that, acquisitions apart, the number of customers fell. Despite its absence from London, once thought as a source of strength, Charlotte did suffer from the strong pound, which discouraged foreign, especially American, visitors and encouraged English people to holiday abroad.

The recession also hit commercial business. But the profit fall would not have been so steep but for a jump in interest charges from £283,000 to ...,000. The dividend stays at ...p gross. Earnings a share were 1.36p against 2.78p.

This year should be better, as the group is over the hump of a three-year £4.5m refurbishment programme, £2.8m of it in the last year alone. This has allowed the group to raise tariffs. The programme meant that on average 140 rooms were out of commission in the first half of last year. It fell as the months passed, and the plan is to have only 25 or so out of ... out of action this year.

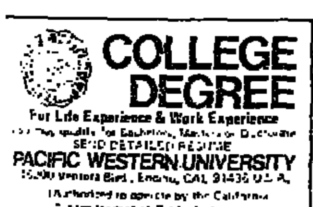
Sutton District Water sale by tender

The Sutton District Water Company is offering for sale by tender £3m of 8 per cent redeemable preference stock 1986. The gross yield is 11.42 per cent at the minimum price of issue of £100 per £100 of stock. However, the deposit is ...0 with the balance payable by March 25. Brokers are Seymour, Pierce.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12¼%, over £50,000 12½%.



Mr Bentley sells F Pratt holding to 600 Group

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Bardsey, the company headed by Mr John Bentley, has sold its 12.7 per cent stake in F. Pratt Engineering to the 600 Group for 122½p a share, giving Bardsey a profit estimated at about £200,000 in the space of three weeks.

Bardsey bought its stake in Pratt in the middle of last month through a market raid at 85p, which was thwarted by the rise in Pratt shares, and further purchases at up to 100p. Just before the raid Pratt's shares stood at 70p, and 50p a few weeks before that, and the Stock Exchange yesterday confirmed that it was holding a preliminary inquiry into dealings in Pratt shares during February.

After buying its stake in February, Bardsey said it was considering a full bid. But soon after, Pratt announced the £4.5m sale of the opticians chain Hamblin & Wingate to Dolland & Aitchison. Pratt bought H&W last summer for £850,000.



Mr John Bentley, chairman of Bardsey.

Mr Bentley said yesterday that Bardsey had originally hoped to build up a near 30 per cent stake in Pratt and then make a full bid, but had changed its mind because of the rise in Pratt's shares, which would have meant paying too high a price. Pratt shares have been up to 120p—closing 6p down at 114p yesterday.

Mr Bentley would not confirm Bardsey's exact dealing profit but said: "I think we've got a good value for the holding we sold."

One reason that Bardsey's market raid in Pratt was only partly succesful is thought to be that Mr Maurice James, a Pratt director, had been buying shares at around the same time. Last month Mr James disclosed the purchase of 115,000 shares bought between 60p and 90p.

The 600 Group, which is paying £845,000 for the 690,000 shares in Pratt, said it is not "the present intention" to bid for Pratt but it wants to keep a substantial shareholding because of commercial links between the two companies which stretch back for over 30 years. Pratt is an exclusive supplier of chucks for the 600 Group's centre lathes.

Sir Jack Wellings, 600 Group chairman, said Mr Bentley had contacted the group about the Pratt stake. Sir Jack said he was happy for Pratt to remain independent, but "you never know what's going to happen tomorrow."

Briefly

Allen Harvey and Ross: Dividends 23p (21.5p) net final to Feb 5. Profit £709,060 (£653,000) after provision for rebate and tax. Net assets £6.01m (£5.9m).

Yorkshire Fine Woollen Spinners (Acquisition of the properties, plant, stocks and businesses of A.W. Fabrics).—At an extraordinary meeting, resolutions were passed to approve the above acquisition, the increase in and conversion of the company's authorized share capital and the rights issue of 11 per cent cumulative redeemable convertibles preference shares of £1 each.

Second Alliance Trust: Gross income for half year to January 31 £1.38m (£1.54m). Net income £761,000 (£899,000). EPS 3.96p (4.12p excl exceptional arrears of dividends received). Nav 282.3p (269.7p). Interim already amended.

Brocks Alarms points out that since early 1978 it has been part of the Automated Security Holdings Group of companies and since that time it has had no financial connexions with the Brocks Group of companies to whom it is understood receivers have been appointed.

Security Centres Holdings has acquired Hornet Alarms (M C) for £87,000 in shares and £57,000 of cash. Net profit before tax of Hornet for year to November 30 1980 was £25,000.

Sutton District Water: Offer for sale by tender is announced of £3m 8 per cent redeemable preference stock 1986. Tenders to be received by 11 am on March 11.

Bank Leumi (UK): Chairman says in his annual report that 1981 is not expected to be an easy year for banking. He is, however, confident that the bank's broad customer base, its experience and the expansion of its network within Bank Leumi's international activities will help the UK bank to make good progress in the future.

Woolworth opens opticians' units: Opticians' units are being opened this week by F. W. Woolworth at two of its largest stores in the Midlands—in Coventry and Wolverhampton.

Allied Breweries has received an allotment of 5.17m ordinary shares in Castle Maine Tooheys at price of $A3.60 per share making a total consideration of $A18.62m. Acquisition increases the total Allied Breweries holding in Castle Maine Tooheys to 20.9 per cent.

Dividend cut sharply after loss at Jentique

By Michael Clark

Despite earlier indications of a "modest improvement" in trade, interim figures from Jentique reveal profits in the red and the interim dividend cut by nearly half.

Last year's pretax profit of £309,000 has tumbled to a loss of £218,000 on turnover reduced from £5.7m to £5.3m. The interim dividend has been reduced from 1.47p gross to 0.85p.

A company spokesman declined to expand on the reason for the loss but referred to the last set of reports and accounts which pointed to a sharp decline in consumer spending. This has particularly hit the group's two main divisions; the Metamec clock side and the Jentique furniture products division.

In his statement accompanying the figures, Mr Geoffrey Cooper, the chairman, said sales and production at Metamec were showing a marked upturn over the same period last year. In addition, the benefits of substantial investments were indicative of an improved performance for the remainder of the year.

However, the furniture division still faces competitive trading conditions and the subsequent pressure on margins. Although now operating on full-time working, the volume needed to eliminate losses is still below par.

Sales up at Grand Met

By Our Financial Staff

Grand Metropolitan's profits are going to be "somewhat flat in the first half". Sir Maxwell Joseph, the chairman, told 500 shareholders at the annual meeting in London yesterday.

"We are fortunate in these difficult times to be so diverse and to have our risks spread so broadly. I am confident that we shall continue to perform at least as well as and hopefully rather better than our competitors," he said.

First quarter sales showed a relatively satisfactory 12½ per cent increase, excluding Liggett, and this improvement, together with rigid control of expenditure, should ensure a modest increase in the current year's profits, Sir Maxwell said.

Directors and staff to bid for Hornby

By Catherine Gunn

Directors and staff of Hornby Hobbies, backed by a handful of leading financial institutions, will put in a bid for the company today. Offers must must be handed in by 4 pm today to Coopers and Lybrand, the receiver of Hornby's parent, Dunbee-Combex-Marx, the toy manufacturer that folded in February 1980 with debts totalling more than £18m.

The three directors behind the bid have the backing of Hornby's 1,500 staff. Mr Karl Muller, the managing director, Mr Keith Dunk, finance director, and Mr Paul Edey sought the advice of financial consultant Guidehouse just before Christmas.

Guidehouse, formed six months ago to specialize in syndication, and stockbroker Earnshaw Haes and Sons won the financial support of several institutions for the project. "We have enough to do it," Mr John Walker of Earnshaw Haes said yesterday.

Mr George Cockerell of Coopers and Lybrand, speaking from Hornby's Margate headquarters yesterday, said that bids for Hornby would be considered over the weekend and an announcement made on Monday.

Possible rival bidders for the company, which makes the famous Hornby trains and Scalextric track games and equipment, include Tamwade, the company formed by Mr Richard Beecham, Dunbee-Combex-Marx's former joint managing director. Tamwade has already bought the DCM businesses from the receiver.

Hornby Hobbies has a turnover of approximately £20m. The receiver is believed to have placed a price tag in the region of £12m on the company.

Hornby has continued its operations since the parent company went into receivership and the management syndicate will bid for it as a going concern.

Asked whether the receivers would simply sell Hornby Hobbies to the highest bidder, Mr Cockerell said: "One would normally take that view to start with".

The failure of Dunbee-Combex-Marx came after heavy losses in America and Europe, although the company had been trading profitably in Britain.

Creditors in the United States applied for a moratorium to protect their interests, and in February last year receivers were appointed by the Midland Bank.

Fiat to cut payout as profits rise

International

Fiat plans to cut its dividend by up to a third despite a "rough doubling" of profits in 1980 from 29,400m lire (£17.5m) in 1979. The company pointed out however, that the dividend, expected to be trimmed by as much as 60 lire from last year's 185 lire a share, would be payable on twice as many shares since the company doubled its equity capital during 1980.

The expected dividend cut evidently reflects an increasingly difficult operating environment characterized by high stocks of cars, weakening domestic demand and large cash requirements for development programmes.

The company has to face the twin problems of "high Italian inflation and weak worldwide markets", Signor Cesare Romiti, group managing director, said. If it is to survive the expected shakeout of world car makers in the years ahead.

He voiced apprehension that as the United States partly shuts out imports from Japan, the Japanese will step up competition in Europe, where they already underprice other producers by an average of 8 to 10 per cent.

Ford Motor's British unit may roll over part or all of the $1,000m loans it has made to the parent company as the loans become due later this year, according to officials of Ford of Europe Inc. The loans were made in 1980 by Britain's Ford Motor Company at market interest rates, according to the officials, who were in Geneva for a motor show.

ETCI members named

Euro Travellers' Cheque International, the world-wide travellers' cheque organization based on Thomas Cook travellers' cheque operations and on other existing European cheques, yesterday announced details of its membership and board of directors.

The ETCI was formed in March 1980 after an agreement between the Midland Bank, the holding company for Thomas Cook, and several European banks. Shareholding is split in differing proportions between banks in Britain, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, France, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland.

The largest stakes are held by Britain and Germany with 20 per cent each. Shares amounting to 17 per cent will be held in trust for other countries which apply to join. At present, member institutions of ETCI account for 60,000 branches in Europe.

The chairman of the group is Mr Daniel Cardon de Lichtbuer, a member of the board of managing directors of Banque Bruxelles Lambert.

Bank of Canada

The Royal Bank of Canada, the country's largest bank, has reported profits after tax of Can$138.4m (about £52m) for the first quarter of 1981. This is an increase of Can$59.8m over the comparable period of 1980.

Hume Industries

Pretax profits at Hume Industries (Far East) of Singapore rose 26 per cent to S$13.5m (about £3.2m) during the six months to December 31, the company said.

Compared with last year, gross sales also rose 26 per cent to S114.8m, while after tax profit rose 11 per cent to S$8.6m.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	63	—	6.7	10.6	5.7
45	21	*Armitage & Rhodes*	45	+1	1.4	3.1	18.5
192	92½	Bardon Hill	190	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	93xd	+1	5.5	5.9	4.6
126	88	Frank Horsell	106	—	6.4	6.0	3.3
110	40	Frederick Parker	40	—	1.7	27.5	17.4
110	74	*George Blair*	74	—	3.1	4.2	—
110	59	Jackson Group	107	—	6.9	6.4	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	119	—	7.9	6.6	9.8
334	244	Robert Jenkins	320	—	31.3	9.5	—
55	50	Scruttons 'A'	52	—	5.3	10.2	3.8
224	215	Torday Limited	216	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	11	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	—	15.0	20.8	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	44	+2	3.0	6.8	6.8
103	81	Walter Alexander	102	—	5.7	5.6	5.6
263	181	*W. S. Yeates*	260	—	12.1	4.7	4.2

Most stocks set for downturn

Last year was one that most industrialists would wish had never happened, while quite a lot of mining companies, especially those fortunate enough to produce precious metals, will remember it fondly.

But the collapse in metal prices and the business cycle have now caught up with mining companies, so that they too are not eagerly looking forward to the next six months or year. Nevertheless, some City analysts are arguing that, if share prices are to be believed, we are not far from the bottom of the cycle.

"Not far" is of course a safe formulation which allows comfortable latitude in giving advice to clients. Braver analysts are suggesting that the middle of the year could see a recovery in share prices, and on this basis they are telling investors to look again at majors such as Rio Tinto-Zinc, C.S.R. Alcan, Amcoal, and Newmont.

If there is one lesson to be learned about metal prices and mining shares it is that the relationship is complicated and full of surprises. The most vivid example is copper. After the boom of the 1960s, the next decade was a disaster. According to calculations by stockbrokers Grieveson, Grant, copper was the only major metal whose price movement fell well short of the rise in the United States consumer price index in the 1970s. On an index where 1970 equals 100, prices were 218 in 1980 while copper was 149.

This much said, it is important that most other metals did better than the price index. Leaving aside gold and silver, iron ore was 222 in 1980, chrome ore 406, manganese ore 274, zinc 226, lead 262, nickel ore 235, bauxite 217, and tin 470. This is better than folklore implies. Never the less, an annual 10 per cent rise during the decade would have produced an index of 260 by 1980.

Underlying individual trends have become more noticeable over the last decade. The quantity of raw materials, including metals, consumed with each

Mining

marginal rise in gross national product tends to fall in developed countries. By the same token, developing countries need an increasing amount of materials per unit of output as production grows.

In rich countries, greater efficiency in using resources, changes in the kind of goods and services making up final demand, and the switch to substitute materials have contributed towards a slowing down in the rate of resources use. But because of the absolute size of these economies they are still crucial in setting mineral prices.

European consumption of minerals other than fuel may grow by only 3-5 per cent annually to the end of the century, a third less than previous estimates.

Investment in mining companies, and investment by mining companies, must be seen against this background. The growth rate of materials used could be even less if some of the more pessimistic forecasts for economic growth in industrial countries are correct.

As it is, average growth in Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development members is put at between 0.5 and 1 per cent this year, compared with 1.4 per cent in 1980.

From the investment viewpoint, timing is crucial. The peculiar problem here is that even if one can establish a reasonable relationship between industrial demand and mining capacity over the period of a secular trend, this does not take into account the leads and lags of metal prices and share prices within the trading cycle of individual companies.

What often happens is that in the first phase of the upturn industrial production and profits rise faster than mining output. Stocks are drawn down, excess capacity is called into production and the squeeze on demand which forces metal prices up follows later. During this initial period mining shares, although rising in anticipation of bigger profits, may do relatively worse than industrials.

To bring the argument closer to contemporary conditions, a lot of mining shares do not yet completely discount the collapse in metal prices since about September 1980. Apart from reasonably good base metal prices in the first half of 1980, the precious metal explosion added a freak element to many mining company results. As the first quarter and first half results come in for 1981, the share market will adjust.

This could be the year that mining companies will wish had never happened.

Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

Scottish United Investors

Net asset value up by 32% at 31 December, 1980 – Scrip Issue

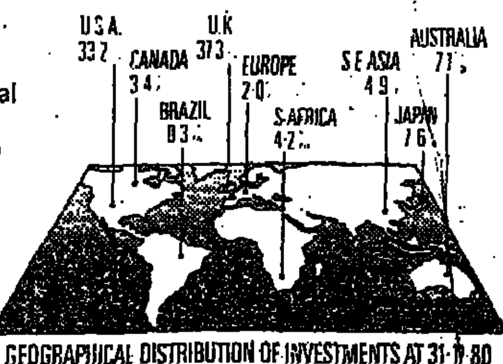
With almost £25m at credit of realised capital reserve, the directors recommend a 1 for 2 Scrip Issue to increase ordinary share capital to £41.5m.

The policy of increasing overseas investment continued, with further investment in the United States, Australia, Japan and Continental Europe. At 31 December, 1980, 63% of funds were invested directly overseas.

In many overseas countries, there are opportunities for investment in companies whose earnings and dividend payments are more likely to increase than in the U.K. An eventual upturn in world economic activity will offer substantial advantage to a well balanced international portfolio.

Robert C. Smith, Chairman

Summary of the Year	1980	1979
Total Assets	£131,322,460	£100,532,447
Net Assets	115,846,227	87,684,164
Net Asset Value	104.5p	79.1p
Gross Revenue	5,919,494	5,602,850
Net Revenue	2,509,803	2,478,203
Dividend	2.30p	2.15p



Copies of the Accounts available from: SCOTTISH UNITED INVESTORS LIMITED, 37 RENFIELD STREET, GLASGOW G2 1JU

Business appointments

Hill Samuel names two board members

Mr R. W. Crick, managing director of Hill Samuel (SA), and Mr B. Hesketh, managing director of Hill Samuel Pacific, have joined the board of Hill Samuel.

Mr Jeremy Rowe, chairman of the London Brick Company, is the new chairman of Peterborough Development Corporation. He succeeds Sir Christopher Higgins, who is retiring.

Mr J. D. Marsh and Mr R. L. L. Davis have joined the board of Workington Sawmills, part of Thames Board.

Mr Michael P. Renton, who was until recently deputy chairman of Arbuthnot Latham Holdings, has become a non-executive director of the Grosvenor Square Properties Group.

Mr Michael Harrison has been made a director of Transmail and Index Services.

Mr Melville Johnston, chief executive of Halfords Group, is to join W. H. Smith as retail director, retail operations.

Mr Dryden G. Liddle is now executive director of the banking group, Merrill Lynch International Bank.



Results for 1980

The audited accounts for the year to 31st December 1980 will be published on 14th April 1981, but preliminary and unaudited figures for 1980, with actual figures for 1979, are as follows:—

	1980 £M	1979 £M
Premium Income		
General Business	876.0	815.2
Long Term Business	104.5	92.3
	980.5	907.5
Profit and Loss Account		
Investment Income	119.3	104.4
Underwriting Results—General Business	(27.0)	(18.2)
Shareholders' Long Term Profits	3.0	2.9
	95.3	89.1
Less Interest on Loans	1.6	1.6
UK Employee Profit Sharing Scheme	1.4	1.0
Profit before Taxation	92.3	86.5
Taxation—UK and Overseas	25.9	26.8
Profit after Taxation	66.4	59.7
Minority Interests and Preference Dividends	1.1	1.2
Profit for the year available to Ordinary Shareholders	65.3	58.5
Earnings per share	39.8p	35.7p
Dividend per share	13.5p	12.0p

NOTE
In arriving at the profit for the year, overseas revenue has been translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the year end.

Analysis by territory of general business premium income and underwriting result

	1980 Premium Income £M	1980 Underwriting Result £M	1980 Principal exchange rates used	1979 Premium Income £M	1979 Underwriting Result £M	1979 Principal exchange rates used
U.K.	423.9	(2.4)	—	364.7	(10.3)	—
U.S.A.	260.6	(4.5)	$2.39	263.2	1.1	$2.22
E.E.C. other than U.K.	56.8	(8.5)	—	59.8	(7.6)	—
Canada	44.3	(3.2)	$2.85	43.3	(1.0)	$2.59
Australia	20.9	(5.5)	$2.03	19.3	(0.7)	$2.01
Others, including *reinsurance*	49.4	0.3	—	45.6	0.3	—
Marine and Aviation	20.1	(3.2)	—	19.6	—	—
	876.0	(27.0)		815.2	(18.2)	

Life Department

New Business figures are as follows

	1980 £M	1979 £M
New Benefits		
Sums Assured	2,505.7	1,878.6
Annuities per annum	60.2	55.7
New Life and Annuity Premiums		
Annual	19.3	16.0
Single	14.5	13.6

Final dividend for the year ended 31st December 1980
The Directors have decided to recommend to the Shareholders at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 6th May 1981, the payment of a final dividend on the Ordinary Shares of 7.25p per share making a total distribution for the year of 13.5p per share.

The dividend will be payable on or after 1st July 1981, to Shareholders on the register on 1st June 1981.



General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corporation Ltd
World Headquarters, General Buildings, Perth, Scotland.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER bars were barely steady: cathodes were idle.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £788-89.00 a metric ton; three months, £811-11.50. Sales, 7,250. Cash cathodes, £786-87.00; three months, £798.00-[illegible]. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £791.50-793; three months, £815-816.00. Settlement, £792.00. Sales, 5,350 tons. Cash cathodes, £780-790.00; three months, £802-803.00. Settlement, £790.00. Sales, 1,000 tons.

TIN.—Standard tin was steady: high grade idle.—Afternoon.—Standard, cash, £6,035-45 a tonne; three months, £6,150-70. Sales, 150 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,055-45; three months, £6,165-70. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard, cash, £6,030-6,040; three months, £6,170-6,180. Settlement, £6,040. Sales, 725 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,030-6,040; three months, £6,170-6,180. Settlement, £6,040. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works rose by 16 cents yesterday to 30.61 ringgit per kilo.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £322.50-325 per tonne; three months, £330.50-331. Sales, 1,550 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £322-323.50; three months, £331-332.00. Settlement, £323.50. Sales, 10,100 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £328-330.00 per tonne; three months, £[illegible]-339.00. Sales, 7,375 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £331-332.00; three months, £341-342.00. Settlement, £332.00. Sales, 2,450 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at 200.20 ($440.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was quiet yesterday.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 540.80p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1,197.00); three months, 557.80p (1,247.10c); six months, 571.95p (1,300.00c); one year, 609.70p (1,398.00c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 528-529p; three months, 514-516.0p. Sales, 40 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 538.5-539.5p; three months, 555-556.0p. Settlement, 539.5p. Sales, 63 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steadier at yesterday's close.—Afternoon.—Cash, £651-652.00 per tonne; three months, £662-664. Sales, 3,850 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £642-643.00; three months, £657-658. Settlement, £644.00. Sales, 4,250 tonnes.

NICKEL was quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,825-2,850 per tonne; three months, £2,870-2,880. Sales, 18 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,830-2,855; three months, £2,850-2,875. Settlement, £2,855. Sales, 18 tonnes.

RUBBER was steady (pence per kilo): April, 61.00-61.40; May, 62.00-62.10; April-June, 62.00-62.20; July-Sep, 65.30-65.40; Oct-Dec, 68.00-68.20; Jan-March, 70.50-71.00; April-June, 73.70-73.80; July-Sep, 76.40-76.60; Oct-Dec, 79.10-79.20. Sales: Four lots at five tonnes each and 506 lots at 15 tonnes each.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet (all pence per kilo): Spot, 58.50-59.50. CIFs April, 62.75-63.50; May, 63.25-63.00.

COFFEE.—**ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): March, 1,015-16; May, 1,035-38; July, 1,047-49; Sep, 1,056-58; Nov, 1,060-62; Jan, 1,060-75; March, 1,060-75. Sales, 1,352 lots, including 31 options.

ARABICA (official at 16.45): April, 142.00-45.00; June, 142.00-46.00; Aug, 142.00-44.00; Oct, 141.00-45.00; Dec, 138.00-41.00; Feb, 136.00-41.00; April, 135.00-40.00. Sales, Nil.

COCOA was steady yesterday (£ per metric ton).—March, 852-855; May, 919-920; July, 945-946; Sep, 968-969; Dec, [illegible]-1,000; March, 1,020-1,022; May, 1,035-1,040. Sales: 2,942 lots, including one option.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £4.00 higher at £256; the "whites" price was £5.00 higher at £285. Futures (£ per tonne): May, 254.10-54.20; Aug, 251.25-51.50; Oct, 247.10-47.75; Jan, 232.50-35.50; March, 232.00-32.50; May, 232.00-32.50; Aug, 231.00-35.00. Closing tone: Barely steady. ISA prices (March 3): daily, 22.72; 15-day average, 23.71c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quiet and slightly easier (£ per tonne).—April, 121.30-21.70; June, 124.50-24.60; Aug, 126.70-26.90; Oct, 128.00-28.30; Dec, 129.00-31.30; Feb, 129.50-32.50; April, 130.00-34.00. Sales, 144 lots.

WOOL.—New Zealand crossbreds, No 2 contract (cents per kilo) quiet.—March, 341-47; May, 351-56; Aug, 367-66; Oct, 367-72; Dec, 376-78; Jan, 380-87; March, 382-86; May, 384-87; Aug, 387-89. Sales: 26 lots.

GRAIN. (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring, unquoted. United States dark northern spring, No 2, 14 per cent: unquoted. United States hard winter, 13½ per cent: March, £106; April, £106.50 transhipment east coast sellers. E.E.C., unquoted. English feed, fob: March, £114; April, £116; April-June, £118 east coast sellers: April, £115.75 east coast paid.

MAIZE.—United States—French: March, £125 trans-shipment east coast sellers. South African white, unquoted. South African yellow: March-April, £91.50.

BARLEY.—English feed fob: April, £105; May, £105.75; June, £106.50 east coast paids. All per tonne cif United Kingdom unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin.—**BARLEY**: Old crop was irregular; new crop easier.—March, £99.40; May, £101.00; Sept, £95.80; Nov, £97.55; Jan, £101.45. Sales, 168 lots. **WHEAT** was about steady.—March, £109.70; May, £113.45; July, £116.15; Sept, £98.80; Nov, £102.60; Jan, £106.40. Sales: 368 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices.

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	£109.00	£107.00	£98.00
E Midlands	—	£107.60	£97.20
N East	—	—	£97.80
Scotland	—	—	£94.70

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 4:— GB: Cattle, 90.00p per kg lw (+1.06). UK: Sheep, 171.41p per kg est dcw (-5.62). GB: Pigs, 71.49p per kg lw (+3.08). **England and Wales**: Cattle numbers up 14.0 per cent, average price, 89.95p (+0.99). Sheep numbers down 15.6 per cent, average price, 171.65p (-5.85). Pig numbers up 1.9 per cent, average price, 71.40p (+3.08). **Scotland**: Cattle numbers up 26.9 per cent, average price, 90.16p (+1.72). Sheep numbers up 6.0 per cent, average price, 170.64p (-5.75).

POTATOES (Gafta).—April, £51.70; Nov, £57.90; Feb, £67.10. Sales: 58 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange).—**Home-produced**: With supplies tightening, higher levels of prices are being asked.

Imported: The continental market continues firm, with higher asking prices.

Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer first-hand):

Brown	Wed Thur Fri	Mon Tues
1's	5.20 to 5.40	5.40 to 5.50
2's	4.60 to 4.70	4.70 to 4.80
3's	4.40 to 4.60	4.60 to 4.70
4's	4.20 to 4.30	4.30 to 4.50
White		
1's	5.00 to 5.10	5.10 to 5.15
2's	4.55 to 4.70	4.60 to 4.80
3's	4.25 to 4.45	4.30 to 4.60
4's	4.15 to 4.25	4.20 to 4.40
5's	4.00 to 4.10	4.20 to 4.35
6's	3.90 to 4.00	4.10 to 4.25
7's	3.25 to 3.45	3.35 to 3.45

Imported prices (in £):

French brown	Current Arrivals
1's	5.10 to 5.30
2's	4.65
3's	4.40 to 4.45
4's	4.20 to 4.25

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

Wheat pact likely to be extended

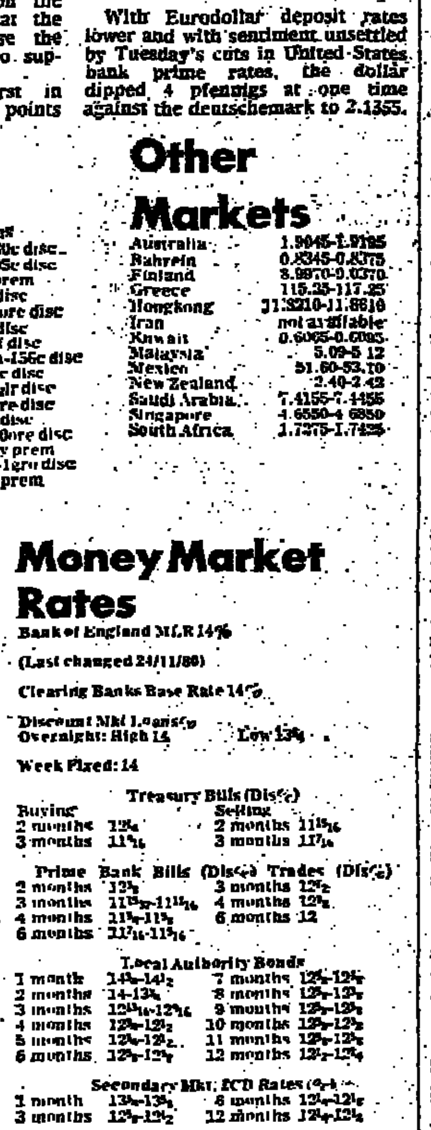
The International Wheat Agreement is likely to be formally extended by two years from July 1 at a special conference to be held in London on Friday, *delegates to a special* International Wheat Council (IWC) session reported yesterday.

Yesterday afternoon, the IWC agreed that the Wheat Trade Convention should be extended by two years and the Food Aid Committee should make a similar decision on its convention *when it meets today.*

Discount market

The pointers were to another day of fairly comfortable credit conditions yesterday. But, once again, money was reluctant to show in any volume, the market possibly keeping an anxious eye on next week's programme of heavy loan repayments and restoration of banks' reserve asset ratio requirements. Only in late trading did rates ease a trifle, closing balances being taken between 13¾ and 14 per cent.





Foreign exchange report

The decision by the Bundesbank to keep its special Lombard *facility at 12 per cent for trading* today promoted a late decline in the deutschemark against the dollar yesterday. Earlier on, the German and other key European currencies had made sharp gains at the dollar's expense on the view by many dealers that the Bundesbank would increase the Lombard facility sharply to support the deutschemark.

Sterling, firmer at first in dollar terms, ended 75 points lower at $2.1985, compared with $2.2060 overnight.

The pound registered a steeper decline against other key currencies. This was measured by a fall to 98.7 in its trade-weighted index from the overnight calculation of 99.5.

With Eurodollar deposit rates lower and with sentiment unsettled by Tuesday's cuts in United States bank prime rates, the dollar dipped 4 pfennigs at one time against the deutschemark to 2.1355.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 4	Market rates (close) March 4	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.1940-2.2225	$2.1980-1995	.33-.43c disc	2.20-2.30c disc
Montreal	$2.6360-6665	$2.6410-6425	.90-.99c disc	2.90-3.05c disc
Amsterdam	5.16-21fl	5.16½-17½fl	2¼-1¼c prem	1¾-¾c prem
Brussels	76.75-77.25f	77.00-10f	7c prem-3c disc	21-31c disc
Copenhagen	14.66-81k	14.72½-74½k	70 prem-80ore disc	430-615ore disc
Dublin	1.2800-2900p	1.2910-2925p	par-15p disc	40-65p disc
Frankfurt	4.68-73m	4.69½-70½m	½pf prem-½pf disc	1½-2½pf disc
Lisbon	125.26-126.70e	125.40-60e	2-25c disc	29 prem-156c disc
Madrid	190.50-192.10p	190.65-85p	25c prem-14c disc	160-203c disc
Milan	2250-76lr	2262-64lr	6½-9½lr disc	31½-34½lr disc
Oslo	11.87-12.04k	11.97½-99½k	145 prem-5ore disc	25-280ore disc
Paris	11.03-12f	11.05-06f	1½-½c prem	2¾-3¾c disc
Stockholm	10.18-30k	10.18½-19½k	195-275ore disc	995-1090ore disc
Tokyo	457-64y	458-59y	135-120y prem	440-420y prem
Vienna	33.00-40sch	33.03-08sch	7-3gro prem	7 prem-1gro disc
Zurich	4.26-31f	4.27½-28½f	2-1c prem	4¾-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 98.7 down 0.8.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9045-1.9195
Bahrein	0.8345-0.8375
Finland	8.9970-9.0370
Greece	115.35-117.35
Hongkong	11.8210-11.8810
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6065-0.6095
Malaysia	5.09-5.12
Mexico	51.60-53.10
New Zealand	2.40-2.42
Saudi Arabia	7.4155-7.4455
Singapore	4.6550-4.6850
South Africa	1.7275-1.7425

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	98.7	−27.4
US dollar	100.6	−3.5
Canadian dollar	84.8	−18.6
Schilling	116.1	+23.0
Belgian franc	107.6	+9.7
Danish kroner	89.2	−9.9
Deutsche mark	119.6	+38.9
Swiss franc	134.0	+75.0
Guilder	112.5	−16.3
French franc	86.0	−9.9
Lira	61.2	−53.4
Yen	146.5	+42.1

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7120-1.7170
† Canada	1.2027-1.2030
Netherlands	2.3600-2.3650
Belgium	34.95-35.05
Denmark	6.6900-6.7000
West Germany	2.1345-2.1370
Portugal	57.05-57.20
Spain	86.75-86.90
Italy	1029-1031
Norway	5.4100-5.4200
France	5.0200-5.0300
Sweden	4.6200-4.6300
Japan	208.45-208.65
Austria	15.10-15.15
Switzerland	1.9440-1.9490

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8309-0.8312

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%
(Last changed 24/11/80)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14 Low 13¾

Week Fixed: 14

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12¼	2 months	11[15/16]
3 months	11¾	3 months	11[7/16]

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	12⅛	3 months	12½
3 months	11[15/16]-11[13/16]	4 months	12⅛
4 months	11⅝-11⅝	6 months	12
6 months	11[7/16]-11[5/16]		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14¾-14½	7 months	12⅞-12⅝
2 months	14-13¾	8 months	12⅞-12⅝
3 months	12[15/16]-12[9/16]	9 months	12⅞-12⅝
4 months	12¾-12½	10 months	12⅞-12⅝
5 months	12¾-12½	11 months	12⅞-12⅝
6 months	12⅞-12⅝	12 months	12½-12¼

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	13¾-13⅝	6 months	12¼-12⅛
3 months	12⅝-12½	12 months	12¼-12⅛

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14⅞	3 months	12¾
7 days	14⅞	6 months	12¼
1 month	13¾	1 year	12⅛

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 15¼-14¾ Close 14

1 week	15⅛-15	6 months	12⅝-12¼
1 month	13[13/16]-13[11/16]	9 months	12¾-12¼
3 months	12¾-12⅝	12 months	12¼-12⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13¼ 6 months 12⅞

Finance House Base Rate 14%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted*	divergence limit % plus minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.6920	+4.78	+1.38	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.98581	+3.39	−0.01	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.54585	+2.57	−0.83	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.99341	+2.50	−0.90	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.81194	+2.49	−091	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.695211	+4.04	+0.64	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1228.96	+6.15	+2.76	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14¾-15¾; seven days, 15⅝-16⅛; one month, 15¼-15½; three months, 16[1/16]-16[5/16]; six months, 16¼-16½.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $475.75 (an ounce); pm, $465.50; close, $464.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $482-485 (£219.25-220.75).
Sovereigns (new): $117-119 (£53.25-54.25).

Wall Street

New York, March 4.—Stocks rallied in late trading after having been virtually unchanged for half an hour before the close to post a good gain for the day. Advances led declines by 806 to 657.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 5.42 to 971.44. That was below its best level set early in the day but it marked a reversal from a downtrend that lasted for much of the afternoon.

Volume totalled 47,520,000 shares compared with 48,730,000 yesterday.

Washington news today centred on the Administration's proposal for a fiscal 1982 increase of $25,800m in Budget authority for the defence Department and a $4,800m rise in actual outlays. The new Budget would include funds to develop a new strategic bomber and build ships for the navy.

Steels led the active list. Volume leader LTV Corp gained ⅞ to 23⅛. US Steel, in second place ended at 31⅛, up 1⅛ after hitting a more than two-year high of 31⅝.

Bethlehem Steel rose 2⅛ to 3⅛ on turnover including a block of 200,000 shares at 29. Republic Steel climbed 1⅜ to 28⅛, Armco 1⅜ to 38⅛, Kaiser 2¼ to 43⅛, Inland Steel 1⅛ to 34⅛, National Steel one to 27⅛, Florida Steel 1⅜ to 58⅛ and Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel one to 26.

Foster Wheeler added 1⅞ to 24⅛. Coca-Cola tacked on ⅛ to 35⅞. It reported higher fourth-quarter profit.

US commodities

New York, March 4.—**GOLD** closed at $450.7 for March, down $14.10 on yesterday. March, $438.70; April, $450.50-$461.50; May, $466.10; June, $470.00-$471.50; Aug, $483.00; Oct, $493.50; Dec, $501.00; Feb, $516.20; April, $527.70; June, $559.40; Aug, $551.50; Oct, $563.40; Dec, $578.70.

CHICAGO IMM GOLD: March, $458.50-$458.00; April, $465.00; June, $470.30-$471.50; July, $492.90; Sept, $486.50; Oct, $510.50; Dec, $503.00; Jan, $538.20; March, $516.00; April, $546.10.

SILVER futures at NY Comex dropped by the 50-cent limit, with spot March closing at a 10-month low of $11.43 an ounce, on liquidation by traders who were under pressure to meet increased margin requirements. March, 1,140.00c-1,145.00c; April, 1,170.00c; May, 1,188.00c; July, 1,221.60c; Sept, 1,258.00c; Dec, 1,304.00c; Jan, 1,320.00c; March, 1,352.00c; May, 1,384.00c; July, 1,416.00c; Sept, 1,448.00c; Dec, 1,496.00c.

COPPER futures closed 0.70 to 0.85 cent a lb lower in nearbys.—March, 78.20-78.25c; April, 79.20c; May, 80.30-80.50c; July, 82.60-82.75c; Sept, 84.85c; Dec, 88.10c; Jan, 89.00c; March, 90.95c; May, 92.70c; July, 94.45c; Sept, 96.20c; Dec, 98.80c; Jan, 99.65c.

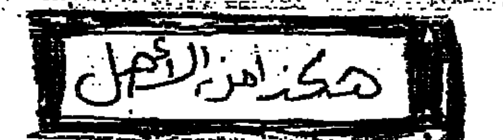
COTTON for March closed at 87.57 cents, down 0.18 cent on yesterday.—March, 87.25-87.50c; May, 87.90-88.05c; July, 87.80-87.85c; Oct, 84.60c; Dec, 81.50c; March, 82.25-82.50c; May, 83.17-83.50c; July, 83.70-84.00c.

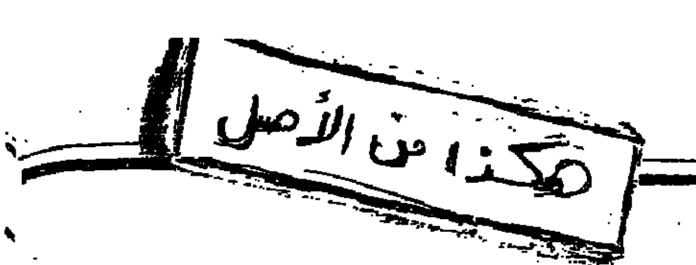
SUGAR futures held closing losses extending to the 0.50-cent limit after a flurry of selling by traders who were forced, for the second time this week, to reduce commodity portfolios in order to meet higher margin requirements.—May, 25.00-25.05c; July, 23.30-23.50c; Sept, 23.11c; Oct, 23.98c; Jan, 21.55c; March, 21.43c; May, 21.50c; July, 21.45-21.56c.

COCOA futures ended about unchanged a session dominated by currency factors. Spot March added $5.00 [illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

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Manager (Director Designate)

Central London — **Emoluments £10,000 — £15,000**

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In the first instance please submit a brief C.V. *in complete confidence to Ronald* Vaughan, John Buckman Associates Ltd., 410, Strand, London, WC2R 0NS. Tel: 01-836 9501.



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We are a Group of expanding companies who need someone to assist the managing directors of two of our subsidiary companies in basic administrative functions.

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The job will involve some routine drudgery but you will also have many chances to show your creative abilities and entrepreneurial capabilities.

We offer a salary of up to £5,000 p.a., a profit-sharing bonus of substantial proportions, L.V.s, BUPA membership, season ticket loan and pension scheme. The person appointed will be expected to make their *own contribution to the continued success of our Group* over a prolonged period.

Written applications only with full c.v. to:
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SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST FOR ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE

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To assist two young Directors in Import/Export company based in prestigious offices in Wimbledon. *Duties to include secretarial work and commercial* responsibility. We need an intelligent, well-groomed person aged 25-30, who wants to become involved in the running of a small business. Knowledge of Dutch useful but not *essential*. Hours 9-5.30. Generous bonus scheme. 4 weeks' holiday. Salary negotiable.

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**appears every day and is featured on Wednesdays and Thursdays
For details ring 01-278 9161**

Executive Secretary to Finance Director
c£7,000

The excellent salary being offered for this position reflects both the importance and potential of the work you would *undertake at the Head Office of* our worldwide businesses based in Mayfair.

Responsible for providing full secretarial back-up to our Finance Director, you should have had several years' experience at senior level and should display both discretion and initiative. You must have first-class secretarial skills, plus the motivation and commitment necessary to meet the demands of this very interesting senior position.



Please write with full career details to Mrs P. Glassock, Central Services Personnel Manager, The Rank Organisation, 11 Hill Street, London W1.

The Rank Organisation

SENIOR SECRETARY

The Computing Services Association is a dynamic trade association in the important modern business of computing services. The Director General requires a senior secretary to carry out all the duties of a personal secretary, and to assist in other general office responsibilities. This is an excellent career opportunity for a dedicated person who likes to be *kept busy in a challenging environment.*

Salary circa £6,000, 4 weeks' holiday, etc.

General. Computing Services Association, Hanover Apply by letter to: Dr. Douglas A. Eyelons, Director House, 73-74 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LE.

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Salary as high as applicant can command.

To start in March.

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require a

SECRETARY

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**wishes to recruit
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£6,000 + mortgage**

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Appointments on 01-606 4711



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(English/German)

sought by International Company in the West End. We require: experience and enthusiasm to work under pressure — shorthand English/German.

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(Age approx. 25-35)
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SECRETARY
required for
Financial Director

If you're aged 30 or over, with good shorthand and audio experience we'd like to hear from you. We are a well-known international company currently requiring a top-class secretary for one of our directors and we're prepared to offer £5,000 plus a company car for the right applicant.

Contact Joyce Moneypenny, Heron Corporation Ltd., Heron House, 19 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JL or telephone 01-486 4477.

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Ideal position for young person to train with high class jeweller. High personal standards, and impeccable appearance required. Knowledge of French preferable. Successful applicant will enjoy good salary and excellent conditions.

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FINANCE YOUR FORTE?
Up to £5,500 with early review.

Allow this *affable Financial* Director to delegate the responsibilities of a hectic schedule into your capable hands. Create your own correspondence, *organise* foreign travel and general staff welfare. Excellent secretarial skills essential.

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58-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3.

Graduate Girls Secretarial
01-621 0566

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Are you willing to work hard, type fast and be well paid? Our clients are prestigious International companies *requiring* responsible, intelligent and willing shorthand and audio Secretaries with word processing *training.* *Excellent company* benefits and remuneration for quality applicants. Ring Valerie Hoskins, The Work Programme Recruitment Consultancy, 404 5059/5073.

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

THE CIVIL & PUBLIC SERVICES ASSOCIATION

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This trade union headquarters has a *vacancy for an experienced private secretary* at its office at Wandsworth Common. Excellent secretarial skills required (50/120 wpm) and experience of minute-taking desirable.

Salary £5,954 rising to £7,120, flexible *working hours and excellent conditions.*

For further details ring Judy Douch 01-874 0494.

SENIOR POSITION

for an experienced Legal Secretary to assist the Senior Partner of Holborn Solicitors.

The position involves a variety of Secretary/P.A. duties including dealing with pop stars. The successful applicant must have varied legal experience together with excellent audio typing speeds of 60-70 w.p.m., preferably with shorthand experience and able to use Telex.

Modern working conditions; 1981 holiday arrangements will naturally be honoured. Salary £6,500.

Please ring Ref. PES on 01-405 2889.

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SECRETARY/PA

to work for busy Chairman/Chief Executive. Suitable applicants should have good shorthand and typing skills as well as an ability to make decisions and work on own initiative.

Please write to Carol Martin, Chilton Lang, Carnaby **House, 27-29 Beak Street, London, W.1, giving full details of your career to date.**

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For Director of busy international professional association **SW1.**

This is an interesting job in a small office for a bright reliable person with good office experience and initiative who is prepared to take an active and responsible part in assisting the Director with the administration of this organisation which has world-wide membership.

Audio and neat typing presentation are essential as well as ability to handle routine correspondence and office duties *without supervision. Knowledge of a European language would* be advantageous.

Salary £5,750, L.V's, 20-days holiday p.a. Please write with full c.v to:

The Executive Director (Appointments), International Bar Association, Byron House, 7-9 St. James' St., London, SW1. Or Tel. 930 6432.

MAYFAIR PROPERTY COMPANY

Seeks intelligent, capable P.A./Secretary with good secretarial skills for one of their Directors. Own office *with IBM self-correcting* typewriter. *Knowledge of* German useful, but not essential. Starting salary £5,500 p.a. 4 weeks' annual holiday. College leaver considered.

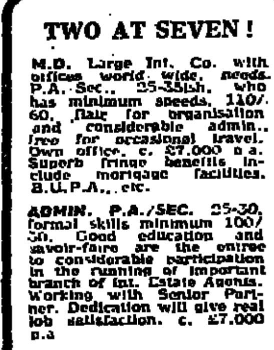
**Please call Alexandra Hjlkema
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TWO AT SEVEN!

M.D. Large Int. Co. with offices world wide, needs P.A. Sec., 25-35ish, who has minimum speeds 110/60. Flair for organisation and considerable admin., *free for occasional travel.* Own office, c. £7,000 p.a. Superb fringe benefits include mortgage facilities, B.U.P.A., etc.

ADMIN. **P.A./SEC.** 25-30, formal skills minimum 100/50. Good education and savoir-faire are the entree to considerable participation in the running of important branch of Int. Estate Agents. Working with Senior Partner. Dedication will give real job satisfaction. c. £7,000 p.a.

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This sports celebrity needs an enthusiastic Secretary/P.A. to set up and run a *brand new sports exhibition* company and assist him organize the annual exhibitions. Salary £5,500. Age 23-40. Speeds 100/60.

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IN THE STRAND

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Young person with maturity to cope with admin. duties needed by Exec. on personnel side of firm of surveyors, W.C.2. Typing essential, but this job is mainly organising and also involves responsibility for some recruitment.

**Stella Fisher Bureau
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Recruitment Consultants**

SECRETARY/PA
WEST END CONSULTANCY

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Ring Joanne on
01-486 8277

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY
£7,000 W.1

Board level experience in a large company preferred. Speeds *110 s/h. and 60* typing. If you are 26-35 and could deal with a steady flow of dictation in addition *to highly confidential* P.A. duties, please call me for further information. Pam Greenwood.

439 7972

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Recruitment Consultants

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S.W.1

The newly appointed Chief Executive requires help in taking over responsibilities previously carried out by professional advisors and in setting up comprehensive records.

Applicants must have a wide breadth of secretarial and administrative experience (including telex, shorthand, typing and audio) at senior level, with an appreciation of and a willingness to work with figures, and deal with individuals of high financial standing.

The team is small and applicants must be willing to support the day to day running *of a total office functioning at all levels as necessary. A high standard of personal* appearance and discretion is a prerequisite. Salary for discussion from c. £7,000.

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£4,500-£5,000

This is much more than a shorthand and typing job. You will be involved in lots of administration as well as telephone work, arranging meetings, filing and handling some correspondence. We need an above-average college leaver or someone with a little office experience who is bright and cheerful and prepared to work hard and join in with the department. The company builds hospitals both in the U.K. and abroad. Beautiful offices for 100 staff located near Regent's Park.

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in their busy Home Furnishing Shop
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This job involves all aspects of managing our high-turnover shop, working closely with our new and extensive 1:81 Home *Furnishing Collection.*

Experience in interior design is preferable, and applicants must have had reputable experience in management, involving motivation and direction of staff.

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MAYFAIR PROPERTY
P.A. £6,500

A very busy director of this highly successful company is looking for a capable Secretary/P.A., probably in mid-twenties, plus interested in being involved in the property scene. If you have good secretarial skills (100/50), would enjoy administration and a busy yet informal atmosphere with a small expanding business, please contact

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Recruitment Consultants
No. 55, (next door to Fenwicks)
01-629 1284

Career Opportunity
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Smart and intelligent secretary required for friendly and dynamic international management consultancy. *Will be required* to copy type (50+ wpm) in French and German, *take care of travel arrangements,* but no shorthand! Salary £5,500+. Please ring Jill Grewal on 01-408 0797.

British Olympic Association

P.A. to General Secretary

required for W.1 office. Good shorthand typing and general administrative skills required as well as ability to compile reports and minutes. Interest in sport an advantage. Salary negotiable according to age and experience.

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Director of successful marketing company requires an assistant immediately.

Some secretarial duties are involved but you will spend most of your time working on your own very interesting projects, which will give you genuine responsibility.

You must be really intelligent, hard working and ambitious so that we can train you to become a real contributor *to our business. Friendly, informal working environment, free* lunches and lovely surroundings.

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Salary will be in the range £19,488-£20,476 plus London Weighting, superannuation arrangements and comprehensive fringe benefits

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Applications (envelope marked Dental Secretary) giving full particulars, together with the names of three referees, should reach:

The Secretary,
The Medical Protection Society,
50, Hallam Street,
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not later than Friday, 24th April.

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Please reply in writing to Helen Gordon-Potts, Korn/Ferry International Ltd., 2/4 King Street, St. James's, London SW1Y 6QL.

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The Girl Guides Association

General Secretary

Applications are invited for the position of General Secretary upon the retirement of the present holder.

The General Secretary is the senior salaried official of the Association (current membership 890,000) and is based at the Girl Guides Association Headquarters, Buckingham Palace Road, London.

The General Secretary is responsible for the administration of the Headquarters, servicing the Council and Executive Committee of the Council, and for the 200 staff at the Headquarters, Trading Service and Training Centres.

The ideal candidate will be aged 40–50, have had extensive administrative/management experience, and will have a deep commitment to the Guide Movement. Past or present membership of the Movement will be a very considerable advantage.

Replies containing comprehensive career details and quoting reference S/22/T, will be forwarded direct to the Management Consultants advising on this appointment.

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London W1X 6AD
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ONE LECTURER and TWO ASSISTANT LECTURERS required for IRAQ

Duties: to design and teach a 2-year English course for Foreign Ministry personnel to achieve written and spoken fluency in English.

Qualifications: Candidates must have a degree in English and MA or post-graduate diploma, with suitable TEFL experience.

Salary: ID 400—ID 600 (approximately £600-£900) per month.

Benefits: Free air passage, free furnished accommodation. Two-year contract.

Please write, stating briefly qualifications, experience, and giving the names of two referees to: Embassy of the Republic of Iraq, 20 Queen's Gate, London, SW7.

Applications to be sent by 15th March, 1981.

ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN

Regional Director

The Council is seeking a Regional Director in place of Mr. Jack Phipps who is to become Director of Aldeburgh Festival. The Regional Director works directly to the Secretary-General and takes responsibility for overseeing and strengthening the Council's relationship with the Regional Arts Associations, as well as for the Council's work in the touring of drama, opera and dance. The post is supported by specialist staff in each area.

Applicants should have considerable knowledge of the arts in the regions, proven experience at a senior level in administration, highly developed negotiating skills, and, ideally, experience of working with local authorities.

Salary: at an appropriate point on a scale between £15,000 and £18,500 (currently under review).

For an application form and job description, contact Sue Yates, Personnel Officer, Arts Council of Great Britain, 105 Piccadilly, London W1, telephone 01-629 9495 Ext 116.

Closing date: 20th March. *Post open to male or female applicants.*



Arts Council OF GREAT BRITAIN

Royal Commission of Historical Monuments

Investigator— Air Photographs

. . . to be responsible to the Head of the Air Photographs Unit in London for the development and implementation of a programme of air reconnaissance and photography for archaeological purposes relating to existing evidence and future needs.

Candidates should normally have a degree with 1st or 2nd class honours, or a diploma, in archaeology or geography; but other candidates will be considered if they have experience or knowledge of special value. A knowledge of air photography, cartography and remote sensing techniques desirable.

Salary (under review) within the range of £5,915-£7,760 according to qualifications and experience. Promotion prospects. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 23 March 1981) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/5528.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Medical Oncology Unit Edinburgh

Established Scientist

Biochemist/Pharmacologist required for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Medical Oncology Unit in Edinburgh (Director, Professor J. F. Smyth). The work of this recently established Unit involves a closely integrated clinical and laboratory based scientific programme of research into the properties of anti-cancer drugs. The appointee will be expected to pursue an active research programme in the areas of nucleic acid metabolism in relation to anti-cancer drugs, the biochemical pharmacology of anti-cancer drugs and development of new anti-cancer drugs. He/she will also be in day-to-day charge of the Unit's laboratory plus a staff of six scientists and technicians.

The successful candidate will have made major contributions to one of the above or closely related fields. Experience of nucleic acid metabolism is essential: proven ability to supervise the work of other scientists will be a distinct advantage.

The position is permanent and pensionable, is established by the I.C.R.F., and honorary university status (Senior Lecturer) will be available. Salary, according to qualifications and experience, will be in the Fund's non-clinical Senior grade range: £11,165-£13,980 a year. Further information from Professor J. F. Smyth, Head, University Department of Clinical Oncology, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, EH4 2XU, Scotland. Tel. (031) 332 2525, ext. 138. Applications should be sent to Professor Smyth enclosing a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of two referees.

Due to the retirement on 31 July 1981 of Mr. T. M. H. Scott, MA, the present Chief Executive, applications are invited for appointment as

CHIEF EXECUTIVE
£22,134-£23,349 p.a.

Sutton is an attractive Outer London Borough with a population of 166,900, on the edge of the Green Belt, about 12 miles from Charing Cross.

The Chief Executive is head of the Council's paid service and their principal adviser. He does not have specific departmental responsibilities.

Further particulars and application forms, which must be returned by 31 March 1981, obtainable from the Personnel Officer, Civic Offices, St. Nicholas Way, Sutton, Surrey SM1 1EA (01-661 5148).

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One's principal involvement will embrace recruitment, training, manpower planning and general admin. in respect of a growing staff complement in London and abroad. One would also be expected to undertake various ad-hoc projects and to contribute to the Personnel aspects of the banks' overall development.

The appropriate candidate will therefore have built up sound Personnel experience within International banking and now be looking to grow with what is itself a rapidly expanding company.

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Dublin Corporati[on]

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GRADE B

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Age: Between 22 and 45 years.

Salary: £6,429 — £7,951 per annum.

Closing Date: 18th March, 1981.

For application forms and full particular[s] apply to:—

Personnel Department, Dublin Corporati[on] 55, Aungier Street, Dublin 2. Tel. 78059[...]



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Apply in writing to: The Managing Director, Llewellyn Homes Ltd., 16/20 South Street, Eastbourne.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Applications are invited for

Two Established Positions

One appointment will be in the field of drug targeting. Specific interests could include types of drug, nature of the carrier, drug-carrier attachment, mechanisms of uptake by cells and release of drugs. Extensive use may be made of the spectrum of cell-specific monoclonal antibodies which are currently available at ICRF. The successful candidate will be expected to co-ordinate our current activities in drug targeting and related research, as part of his or her own relevant research programme. (Reference DT.)

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Candidates should have made major contributions to knowledge in one of the above, or in related fields. The pensionable appointments are expected to be in the non-clinical Senior grade (salary range £11,165 to £13,980) or the Special Appointments grade (salary range from £14,275) with entry depending on qualifications and experience, plus in either case London Allowance of £967 a year. Applications with full c.v. and names and addresses of 3 referees should be sent to the Secretary ICRF, 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX by 31st March, 1981, quoting reference as above. Further information may be obtained from the Director of Research Dr W. F. Bodmer.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

has a vacancy for a

RESEARCHER

in the Asia region of its London-based International Secretariat. This is a temporary post for 5 months while the present post-holder is on leave for that time.

Experience of academic research on contemporary China essential. Knowledge of contemporary Laos and Malaysia desirable. Salary £620 per month. For a detailed job specification and application form send an SAE to the Personnel Office, Amnesty International, 10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF. Telephone 01-836 7788, ext 289. Closing date for the return of completed forms 15th March, 1981.

Appointment from 27th April, 1981.

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If you feel you have the experience, and the creative ability to edit the magazine, please apply in writing to: Jane Reed, Publisher, Room 1505, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

requires a

MEDICAL ADVISER

from 1 June 1981 for its London-based International Secretariat to liaise with AI's Medical Advisory Board, advise on the co-ordination and structure of medical programmes and assist in the development of medical groups throughout the world. The Medical Adviser will maintain and develop a comprehensive record of topics of relevance to AI's medical work. The person appointed should be professionally qualified with, preferably, psychiatric experience or experience of working with prisoners or refugees. Administrative experience and fluent English essential; a working knowledge of other languages, particularly Spanish, advantageous

Salary: £7,436.59 per annum (index-linked).

For a detailed job specification and application form send a large s.a.e. to the Personnel Department · Amnesty International, 10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF.

Closing date for the return of completed forms: 15 April 1981.

GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

POST NO. 2

SOLICITOR GENERAL

The duties of the post are the normal duties of the second Law Officer of the Crown and include the general supervision of civil litigation involving the Government and criminal prosecutions, the conduct in court of major civil and criminal cases, the giving of advice to the Government and some legislative drafting.

Applicants must be admitted Barristers or Solicitors of Bermuda, the United Kingdom or some other Commonwealth country, and have had not less than fifteen years' experience of legal practice since admission of which at least three years must have been that of legal officer in a Crown Law Office or similar Chambers.

The salary of the post is BD$38,665 per annum. There is no income tax in Bermuda. BD$=US$.

Applications, giving full details of education, experience and marital status should be sent by Air Mail to the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Post Office Building, Hamilton 5-24, Bermuda, to be received no later than March 26th, 1981.

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Requests for details of the post and application forms shou[ld be] sent to the

Clerk to the Governors of the School, to whom applica[tions] should be returned by 26th March, 1981.

ASSISTANT EDITOR

required to work on varied list of annual international reference books. Position would suit young language, history or economics graduate wishing to enter publishing, or similar graduate with one or two years' publishing experience. Knowledge of one or more modern languages and ability to type an advantage. Neat, legible handwriting, good spelling and an orderly mind essential. Write in your own hand, giving full details of age, education, experience and present salary to:

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Jack Gilvey, LIS (Life & Pension Services) Ltd., Pioneer House, 63a Thorpe Road, Norwich, NR1 1UD.

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Mr B. Chilby, including copies of references and any other applicable information. Reply Box 2580 F The Times.

THE MEDICI SOCIETY seeks an experienced and well-educated representative with some knowledge of art history, to sell Medici publications including prints, greeting cards and books to shops, stores and art galleries in the central London area. Car provided, expenses paid. Salary c. £7,000 p.a. + bonus for sales over target.—Apply in writing giving full details to the Secretary, 34-42, Pentonville Rd., London, N1 9HG.

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If you meet these challenging criteria please contact Miss Addison, 01-730 2148.

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(London)

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Are 24-30 with H N D or [...] in Business Studies or s[imilar] qualifications? Do you [...] you would like to work i[n the] music business?

For further details co[ntact] William Feeny on 01-439 8130.

PARTTIME or freelance ma[rket] investigation and analysis [experi]ence required by co[mpany] specialising in Housing [and] Construction Industries [...] experience, reply to Dept [...] Mercer St., Covent [Garden], London WC2H 9QL.



هكذا من الأصل

PERSONAL CHOICE



[D]eborah Kerr is interviewed in After Noon Plus (ITV, 2.00).

What on earth has gone wrong with BBC TV comedy ? Why [ha]s it slid into the slough ? How long does the BBC intend to [le]ave it there ? Where are the writers with new ideas ? Where [ar]e the actors who can make us laugh ? Why is Yes Minister [fl]ying the only flag of quality ? Who was it at the BBC who [d]ecided that last Monday night's unprecedently awful revue by [B]aby Grand should be inflicted on us ? Is there still time for [H]i-De-Hi ! (BBC 1, 8.00) to pull its socks up ? Are there not [re]d faces at Television Centre because the current re-run of [F]awlty Towers is showing up the new comedy offerings for the [we]aklings they are ? Why are there so many questions, and [no] answers ? End of memo to BBC. PS : thanks for Old Mother [R]iley, Headmistress (BBC 2, 6.35), but it's 31 years old.

Man Alive (BBC 2, 9.30) is about the big spenders of this [w]orld, and the "it" in the title, There's Still a Lot of It About, [is] money. The evidence it produces is startling, to say the least. [It] seems there really are people who, without batting an eyelid, [ca]n fork out £20 for a cigar, £10 for a handkerchief and £5,000 [fo]r a bathtub. Tonight's film is not, however, just about the [di]spersal of wealth. More interestingly, it is about the acquisition [of] it, by fair means and foul.

The unmistakable atmosphere of spontaneity in Russell Harty [(B]BC 2, 8.30) and the feeling we get that something could go [te]rribly wrong at any minute, is explained by the fact that the [pr]ogramme goes out live. It is always a risky thing to attempt, [bu]t I am all for it. It puts everybody on their mettle, and for [in]terviewers like Mr Harty, who don't guide their guests through [in]terviews so much as point out the general direction and then [le]ave it to them to find their own way, the live transmission is [cl]early the answer to an MC's prayer.

The whole of tonight's edition of Kaleidoscope (Radio 4, 9.20) [is] devoted to Dame Eva Turner, the prima donna who is [en]tering her ninetieth year. She is interviewed by Elisabeth [H]utchings . . . Priest and Confessor, by Wally K. Daly, the drama [do]uble-bill on Radio 3 (7.30) is about a man's thoughts as he [ap]proaches the confessional and the priest's thoughts as he [aw]aits for him. Richard Briers plays the priest, Tony Haygarth the [co]nfessor . . . The Royal Liverpool Phil play Strauss's Also sprach [Za]rathustra on Radio 4 at 8.40, and the BBCSO play [Sh]ostakovich's Symphony No. 6 on Radio 3 at 2.00. Electrifying [w]orks both of them.

[W]HAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN : †STEREO ; *BLACK AND WHITE ; [(r)] REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University : Proud Ambitious Heaps ; 7.30 Body and Mind ; Closedown at 7.55.

9.00 For Schools, Colleges : Europe from the Air ; 9.30 Des le debut (French lesson) ; 9.47 Science : 10.10 Merry-go-Round ; 10.35 The Law of Life ; 11.05 Streams and Rivers ; 11.30 Welsh Castle Life ; 11.55 Beside the Sea. 12.45 pm News ; 11.00 Pebble Mill at One. Today's edition includes Tony Bilbow's weekly movie feature, Film Focus ; 1.45 Bod.

2.00 You and Me : A Different Sort of Home.

2.15 For Schools, Colleges. Music Time ; 2.40 Television Club : A Place Like Home : Errol.

3.00 Claire Rayner's Casebook : How people with phobias can learn to cope better with them. Closedown at 3.25.

3.55 Play School : Nick Wilson's story Which Is My Room ? Also on BBC 2 at 11.00 ; 4.20 Secret Squirrel : Robin Hood and his Merry Mugs. Cartoon ; 4.25 Jackanory : Sherrie Hewson continues her readings from Dorothy Edwards's A Strong and Willing Girl ; 4.40 Scooby and Scrappy Doo ; cartoon. Shiver and Shake, that Demon's a Snake.

5.00 Newsround : with Paul McDowell ; 5.05 Blue Peter : Featuring a miniature version of the latest cross-channel ferry the St Christopher that viewers can make and sail ; 5.35 The Perishers.

5.40 News : with John Edmunds ; 5.55 News magazines. Regions unite at 6.20 for Nationwide which includes another of Tony Wilkinson's reports on the down and outs of London ; and Grass Roots, presented by Alan Towers, from Birmingham.

6.55 Tomorrow's World : How to escape from a sinking cross-Channel ferry, and from South Africa's voracious sharks.

7.20 Top of the Pops : The hits of the day, performed mostly by the artistes who first played them.

8.00 Hi-De-Hi ! Holiday camp comedy series. There is one "perk" which the entertainments manager (Simon Cadell), though opposed to them, finds it hard to resist. (See Personal Choice).

8.30 Partners : Final episode in this serial about a divorced couple (Derek Waring, Mel Martin). Tonight : why the wife becomes much sought after by businessmen.

9.00 News with Peter Woods.

9.25 Malice Aforethought : Final instalment of the Frances Iles murder story with Hywel Bennett as the country GP arrested for killing his wife. With Cheryl Campbell.

10.20 Question Time : Robin Day's panel tonight consists of Monty Finniston, a former chairman of British Steel ; Terry Marsland, of the Tobacco Workers Union and two MPs, Barney Hayhoe and Jack Straw.

11.20 Kojak : The hijacking of some rare, unrefined morphine has the police puzzled because it is too dangerous to sell ; 12.10 am Weather forecast.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales: 10.10 am-10.30 [illegible]. 2.15 pm-2.35 [illegible]. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 6.55-7.20 Heddiw. 8.00-8.30 [illegible]. 10.20-11.00 [illegible]. 11.00-11.50 [illegible]. 11.50-12.50 am Question Time. 12.50 News. Scotland: 10.10 am-10.30 Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 Scottish News. 3.25-3.55 The Afternoon Show. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 8.30-9.00 The Current Account: Report. 12.10 am News. Northern Ireland: 11.30 am-11.50 Schools. 3.53 pm-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.20-10.50 Spotlight. 10.50-11.18 You and Yours Rights. 12.10 am News. England: 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional Magazines. 12.15 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University : Geophysical techniques ; 7.05 Computing ; 7.30 Being Black. Closedown at 7.55.

11.00 Play School : Same as BBC 1, 3.55 (Nick Wilson's story Which is My Room ?). Closedown at 11.25.

4.50 pm Open University : Species and evolution, animal and plant species on the islands of Hawaii ; 5.15 Electron microscopy.

5.40 Charlie Chaplin : The Champion (1915) Charlie becomes a sparring partner in the boxing ring and his dog helps him to administer a knockout.*

6.10 Maggie : Episode 6 of this serial about a Glasgow girl. Tonight, her brother has an accident on the football field. With Kirsty Miller.

6.35 Music-Hall Greats : Old Mother Riley, Headmistress (1950*). Unrestrained comedy, set in a girl's school run by the erstwhile laundry woman. Her daughter plays the music teacher. With Arthur Lucan and Kitty McShane.

7.50 News : with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

8.00 1981 World Figure Skating Championships. The Pairs Championship, from Hartford, Connecticut. Can America's Caitlin and Peter Carruthers overcome the powerful Soviet challenge ? The commentator is Alan Weeks.

8.30 Russell Harty. Live, from the Palace Theatre in Manchester. This is the last programme in the present series. Mr Harty's guests are Anne Ziegler and Webster Booth and the comedy actor Arthur English (See Personal Choice).

9.00 The Little World of Don Camillo. The communist mayor leaves a bomb on the priest's doorstep, but Don Camillo returns it. With a guest appearance, in the role of the bishop, by Wilfrid Brambell.

9.30 Man Alive : There's Still a Lot of It About. An examination of the lifestyle of some big spenders. It also seeks to find out whether it really is true that there are two tax systems in Great Britain (See Personal Choice).

10.20 The Mike Harding Show. Another in this series of one-man shows by the Lancashire comedian. From the Grand Theatre in Blackpool.

10.50 Newsnight : Bulletins and comment. The newsreader is Linda Alexander. The sports coverage is by Marshall Lee.

11.35 International Bowls. The final of the Embassy World Indoor Bowls Championships, from the Coatridge Indoor Bowling Club. At stake is a cheque for £2,500. Ends at 12.10 am.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools : Politics : a free press ; 9.52 Over to You. All about caves ; 10.09 Wortley's wage packet ; 10.31 A-level series on evolution ; 10.53 A-level biology ; 11.10 Looking after your feet ; 11.27 The study of fossils ; 11.44 Picture Box.

12.00 Gideon : Stories about a duckling, with Tim Brooke-Taylor providing the voices for the animated farmyard characters ; 12.10 pm Stepping Stones : Travelling by water, with Vicky Ireland and Stiggy, her puppet ; 12.30 The Sullivans : Serial about an Australian family during the last war.

1.00 News ; 1.20 Thames area news ; 1.30 Together : Serial about life in a block of flats.

2.00 After Noon Plus : A double-decker edition. Interviews with the British-born actress Deborah Kerr, who is returning to the West End stage in a play by Peter Ustinov ; and with Michael Conn, a young classical guitarist.

2.45 The Racing Game : Gambling Lady : Thriller about a racing world swindle. With Mike Gwilym as the jockey turned sleuth (r).

3.45 In Loving Memory : Comedy series about two undertakers, nephew and aunt (Christopher Beeny, Thora Hird) (r).

4.15 Watch It ! A Dr Snuggles story ; 4.20 Little House on the Prairie. A mother tries to get her blind daughter back ; 5.15 Emmerdale Farm : the serial about countryfolk.

5.45 News ; 6.00 Thames news ; 6.25 Help ! Items on the Snowdon Award for apprentices, a test case on a disabled boy, and a woman's film festival.

6.35 Battlestar Galactica : Outer space adventure yarn. Starbuck is arrested after Ortega is found murdered. With Richard Hatch, Lorne Greene.

7.30 Bognor : Episode 2 of Who Goes Home ? Thriller about a Department of Trade investigator (David Horovitch). More about the murder of the editor of a gossip column.

8.00 The Incredible Mr Tanner : Comedy series about two street entertainers (Brian Murphy, Roy Kinnear). Tonight, a TV set comes into their lives, with unexpected results.

8.30 TV Eye : The risks in the contraceptive pill—not for those who take them but for those who make them. We hear about men with enlarged breasts, and woman who experience irregular periods.

9.00 Hill Street Blues : American police series. Two young Puerto Ricans hold a butcher and his assistant hostage during a hold-up.

10.00 News from ITN : And Thames news headlines.

10.30 Thames Report : The growing discontent among the 70,000 agricultural workers in the Thames area who produce more than most yet are paid less than most.

11.00 International Snooker Masters : Second day of the Yamaha Organs Trophy tournament from the Derby Assembly Rooms. Among the players are Cliff Thorburn and Steve Davis. The final can be seen tomorrow night.

12.10 am What the Papers Say : Newspaper review by Simon Hoggart of the Guardian.

12.25 Close : Jack Peel reads the W. H. Davies poem Leisure.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Checkpoint. 9.30 The Living World. 10.00 News. 10.02 The Mersey Miracle. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story : The Slow-Worm, by Anne Spillard. 11.00 News. 11.05 File on 4. 11.50 Enquire Within. 12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27 Brain of Britain.† 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Play : Where Are You, Two-Seven?, by Jess Curtis.† 4.00 Fritz Spiegl's Musical Alphabet. 4.15 Bookshelf. 4.45 The Trumpet Major (9). 5.00 PM. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News. 6.30 Any Answers? 6.55 It's a Bargain. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Time for Verse. 7.30 RLPO, pt 1 : Mozart.† 8.25 A Sideways Look. 8.40 RLPO, pt 2 : Strauss.† (See Personal Choice.) 9.20 Kaleidoscope. (See Personal Choice.) 10.00 The World Tonight. 11.00 The Painted Veil (9). 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 12.00 News. 12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.

VHF

9.05 am-3.30 Schools : A Service for Schools ; Music Interlude. 10.00 Schools : Sounds, Words and Movement ; Music Interlude ; Stories and Rhymes. 10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother. 11.00-12.00 Schools : Time and Tune (10) ; Man ; Home and Away. 2.00 pm-3.00 Schools : Living Language ; Look! ; Living Through History. 11.00 Study on 4 : Punti di vista (15). 11.30-12.10 am Open University : Historical Data ; Gaudi's Architecture and Design.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Records : Haydn, Boieldieu, Janacek.† 8.00 News. 8.05 Records : Johann Strauss, Mozart, Schubert.† 9.00 News. 9.05 Week's Composer : Stravinsky (incl Sym in C).† 10.00 Piano : Weber, Sibelius, Mendelssohn, Liszt, Verdi.† 10.35 Quartet, mezzo (Lindsay S. Walker) : Berg (Lyric Suite complete).† 11.10 Scottish Chamber Orch/Brydon : M. Berkeley (Uprising—1st bdcst), Mozart (incl Sym 40), Britten.† 1.00 pm Cricket : West Indies v England. 3.05 New London Consort/Pickett : Medieval Music.† 4.25 BBC Northern SO/Downes : Fricker (Vla Conc—Erdelyi).† 4.55 News. 5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.† 7.00 Talking about Music.† 7.30 Double Bill : Priest and Confessor, by Wally K. Daly.† (See Personal Choice.) 8.25 Interview (Illusca) : The Songs of Kilpinen. 9.00 Piano (Fialkowska) : Beethoven (Op 2 No 3), Chopin.† 10.00 Patterson (3).† 10.30 Talk : Words. 10.35 Record : d'Indy.† 11.00 News. 11.05 Record : Franck.† 11.15-11.30 Cricket.

VHF

5.55 am-6.55 Open University : Schooling and Society : Fielding and Patronage ; Ebbw Vale. 1.00 pm News. 1.05 Violin, piano (Gruenberg/McCabe—live from Bristol) : Beethoven (Op 96), Grieg.† 2.00-3.05 BBCSO Rozhdestvensky : Delius, Shostakovich (Sym 6).† (See Personal Choice.) 11.15-12.55 am Open University : Stof Study Hints ; Germany 1789-1820 ; Biochemists and Biochemistry ; Pollution Control ; Computing and Computers.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilby.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Cricket. 8.30 Country Club.† 9.00 Alan Dell.† 10.00 Tom Mennard. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. 11.00 Brian Matthew. 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee Travis. 4.30 Peter Powell. 7.00 Wheels. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2 : 5.00 am With Radio 2. 8.00 pm Country Club.† 9.00 With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT).

6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 [illegible] 8.00 World News. 8.09 [illegible] 8.15 International [illegible] 8.30 [illegible] 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 [illegible] 10.15 [illegible] 10.30 My World. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 [illegible] 11.30 Business Matters. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm [illegible] 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 [illegible] 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 [illegible] 3.15 [illegible] 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 [illegible] 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 [illegible] 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 [illegible] 9.20 [illegible] 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 [illegible] 10.40 [illegible] 10.45 [illegible] 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 [illegible] 11.30 [illegible] 12.00 [illegible] 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 [illegible] 12.30 [illegible] 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 [illegible] 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 [illegible] 2.30 [illegible] 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS : Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only ; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service : med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Project UFO. 5.10-5.15 Police News. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Electric Theatre Show. 10.30-11.00 Cover to Cover. 12.10 am-12.15 News.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.10 Jobline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Happy Days. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28 News. 10.30-11.10 Your Chance. HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.30 am-9.45 About Wales. 12.00-12.10 pm Owain A'r Olion. 4.15-4.20 King's Trumpet. 4.20-4.45 Take A Chance. 4.45-5.10 Ser. 5.10-5.20 Cartoon. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Sports Arena. 10.30-11.00 Come Taste The Wine.

Anglia

As Thames except: Starts 9.15 am-9.30 Jobline. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20-5.15 Project UFO. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Bird with Two Hats. 10.30-11.00 Fantasy on a String. 12.10 am Love American Style. 12.35 Christians in Action.

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 4.20-5.45 Film: Black Arrow* (Louis Hayward). 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This Is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Benson.

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Life Begins at Forty. 5.15 Pet Subject. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Action Line. 6.30 Nature Watch. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 In Concert: Elkie Brooks. 12.10 am-12.15 Late Call.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.45 Life Begins at Forty. 4.13-4.15 News. 4.20 Little House on the Prairie. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.50 Police Six. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Counterpoint. 12.10 am-12.30 Bedtime.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. Lookaround. 3.45-4.15 Father Dear Father. 4.20 Fantastic Four. 4.45-5.45 Tarzan. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 News. 10.32-11.00 Soap. 12.10 am-12.15 Women's World Day of Prayer.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Country Calendar. 4.20 Survival. 4.45-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 With a Little Help. 12.10 am Closedown.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Forum. 10.28 News. 10.34-11.00 Jazz.

Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 New Fred and Barney Show. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Entertainers. 12.10 am-12.13 News.

ATV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Leave It To Charlie. 4.20 Vic The Viking. 4.50-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Focus. 12.10 am-12.15 News.

Westward

As Thames except 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Westward Report. 10.31 News. 10.34-11.00 Jazz. 12.10 am-12.15 Faith for Life.

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day By Day. 6.30 University Challenge. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 People Rule! 12.30 am Weather, followed by Talking with God.

Entertainments Guide

[S] Most credit cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COVENT GARDEN 240 1066 'S' Gardencharge cc 836 6903) 65 amphiseats avail. for all perfs. from 10.00 a.m. on the day of perf.

THE ROYAL OPERA
Ton't & Mon at 7.00 L'Africaine. Tomor at 7.00 Lulu.

BALLET RAMBERT
Tue & Wed at 7.30 Daphnis & Chloe. My Brother, My Sisters. Facade. Thurs at 7.30 Manon (Collier replaces Seymour, Whitton replaces Collier).
On 9 Mar. A few tickets remain for a recital at GOLDSMITHS' HALL given by Princess Grace of Monaco with distinguished actors and singers in the presence of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. Details from the Appeal Office, Royal Opera House. Tel: 01-240 1200.

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258. Until April 4
LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET
Evgs. 7.30. Until Mar. 14 Rudolf Nureyev's spectacular ROMEO & JULIET. Ton't: Ruanne, Jolley.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1. 837 1672/1673/3856. Credit cards 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 01-278 0871. Until March 21:
THE ROYAL BALLET
Today at 2 p.m. Inside the Repertoire. Tomor., Sat. & Mon. at 7.30 [illegible] of Wind, Rite of Spring, [illegible] Stomp. Next Tue. & Thur. at 7.30, Preludes & Song. [illegible] of Paris, Rainbow [illegible], Dark Elegies. Tkts 50p to [illegible]

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON OPERA GROUP presents LA BELLE HELENE. Mar. 4th-7th, 7.30 p.m. Tickets £1, £1.50, £2.00. University of London Union, Malet St., W.C.1. Tel. 580 9551.

[illegible]

CONCERTS

[illegible]

THEATRES

[illegible]

ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6, Sats 10-4). Info 836 5332. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't, Tomor 7.30, Sat 2.00 & 7.30
PASSION PLAY
by Peter Nichols
"Sheer magic" Times. "Superlative acting" S. Tel. "The laughter came thick and fast . . . an exciting start to the theatrical year" S. Times. With: O'Casey's award winning JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK (10 Mar). Prestel booking 22023. Group Sales 379 6061. RSC also at The Warehouse/Piccadilly.

ARTS 836 2132. Red'cd Price Prevs until Mon 8 pm. Opens Tues 7 pm Thereafter 8 pm.
JOHN JUDD in
'TWISTED CUES & ELLIPTICAL BALLS'
An affectionate look at the lives & music of Gilbert & Sullivan £4, £3, £2.

CHURCHILL cc 460 6677/6838 Bromley. Rent. 7.45. Sat. 4.30 & 8. Thurs. 2.30.
PETER DAVISON SANDRA DICKINSON
in Neil Simon's comedy
BAREFOOT IN THE PARK.
with MARGERY MASON & EWEN SOLON

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. Limited season until 23 May only. Evenings 7.15 (note early start). The National Theatre smash-hit production (from The Cottesloe) of
ARTHUR MILLER'S
THE CRUCIBLE
Directed by Bill Bryden

COTTESLOE (NT's small auditorium—low price tkts) : Ton't to Sat 7.15 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN by Tom Taylor. Ton't 6.00 Black Theatre Co-operative in Shapesters by Farrukh Dhondy. An ironic look at Othello through the eyes of two black teenagers. Platform perf all tkts £1.20.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves. 8. Sat. 6 & 8.45. [illegible]

[illegible]

CINEMAS

[illegible]

ART GALLERIES

[illegible]

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
PICCADILLY, W.1.
1. A New Spirit in Painting until 18th March. Adm. £2. Concessionary Rate £1.40.
2. Honore Daumier 1808-1879 until 15th March. Adm. £1.50. Concessionary Rate £1.
3. Painting from nature until 15th March. Adm. £1. Concessionary Rate 50p.
All exhibitions open daily 10-6. Concessionary Rate applies — O.A.P.'s, students, groups over 10 and until 1.45 p.m. Suns.

FOYLES ART GALLERY
BETTY CONSTABLE MAXWELL
An Exhibition of
SHELL COTTAGES
10—6 daily until 11 March
119-125 Charing Cross Rd
London, W.C.2

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All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

TATE GALLERY.—Millbank, SW1 JASPER JOHNS WORKING PROOFS: Lithographs and Etchings. Until 22 March. Adm. 60p. Wkdys. 10-6. Suns. 2-6. Recorded information 01-821 7128.

THACKERAY GALLERY, 18 Thackeray St., Kensington Sq., W.8. 937 5883. DONALD BLAKE—Watercolours. Until 30 March.

THE COTTAGE GALLERY, 9 Hereford Rd., W2. 01-221 4578. Graphics, drawings, sculptures, by the American Artist Leonard Baskin. Tues-Fri. 10-6. Sat 11-5.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S. Ken. HILLE: 75 Years of British Furniture. Until 31 May. Adm. 50p. DRAWING TECHNIQUE & PURPOSE. Until 26 April. Wkdys. 10-5.50. Suns. 2.30-5.50. Closed Fridays.

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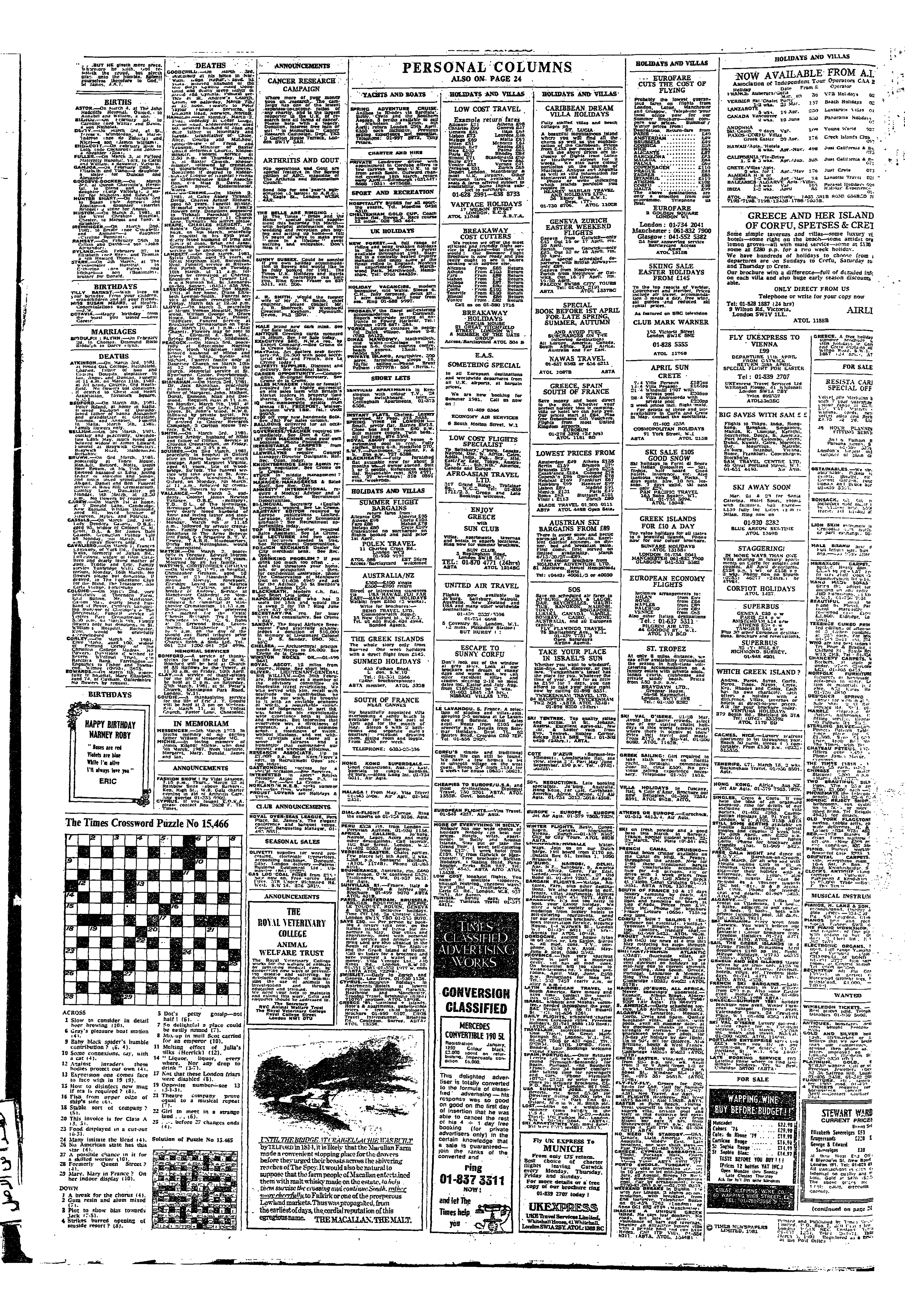
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Manchester Office	061-834 1234

The deadline for all copy is one clear publishing day. i.e. Monday is the deadine for Wednesday, Friday for Monday & Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication ; for Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.:
Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn 7180
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Personal Columns	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3cms) £20.00 per full display (min 3 cms)
Appointments	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3cms) £20.00 per full display (min 3cms)
Property	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3cms) £20.00 per full display (min 3cms)
Weekend Shoparound	£14.00 per cm full display (min 5cms)
Court Circular	£5.00 per line
Box Numbers	£5.00



"... BUT HE giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God." St James, 4.6.7.

BIRTHS

ASTOR.—On March 4, at The John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Annabel and William, a son.

BIANCO.—On February 23, to Caroline (née Watts) and David, a son Nicholas.

DEVEY.—On March 3rd, at St. Teresa's, Wimbledon, to Marie-Thérèse (née de Zulueta) and Nigel—a son (James William).

ENDACOTT.—On February 28th to Lolly (née Cockerell) and John—a daughter (Zoe).

FULLER.—On March 3, at Fulford Maternity Hospital, York, to Carol and William, a daughter, Victoria.

GAMBOA.—On February 28th, to Elizabeth and Tiano—a daughter, a sister for Duncan and Alexander.

GOODEVE-DOCKER.—On March 3rd, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Diana and John—a daughter (Lucy Victoria), a sister for Nicholas and Edward.

HUNTER SMART.—On March 3rd to Susan (née Agnew) and Alastair—a daughter (Harriet Bridget) a sister for Angus.

HUSTON.—On March 3, 1981, at the West Cheshire Hospital, Chester, to Margot and Tony, a daughter.

IREMONGER.—On March 2nd, 1981, to Emple (née Campbell) and Anthony—a daughter (Caroline Pennant).

RAMSAY.—On February 26th to Gillian and David—a son (John Alexander).

RYLAND.—On February 27, to Elizabeth (née Kay), and Thomas a son Howard Thomas.

STARK.—On 4th March, at The Westminster Hospital, to Catherine (née Paten) and Michael—a son (Benjamin), brother for Donald.

BIRTHDAYS

TILLY BARNET.—With love on your birthday. From your children, grandchildren and all your friends.

MISS SUSAN MEARS, of Henley. ...

DEATHS

GOODCHILD.—On March 3rd, peacefully at his home in Norwich, Allan Napier, aged 91 years. Beloved husband of the late Beryl Cynthia Maud Goodchild and dearly loved father of David and Cynthia. Funeral service at St. Andrew's Church, Eaton, on Saturday, March 7th, at 12 noon. Flowers to Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 85 Unthank Road, Norwich, Norfolk.

HAMBLIN.—On Monday, March 2, 1981, suddenly at Cedar Lodge, Mason Road, Kidderminster, aged 60, beloved husband of Joan and dear father of Rosemary and Magda. Grandfather of Chloe, Alice, George and Matthew, father-in-law of Frank and Vaughan. Minister of Baxter United Reformed Church, Kidderminster. Funeral service at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, March 5, at Baxter Church, Kidderminster, followed by cremation at Stourbridge. Family flowers. Donations if desired to Kidderminster League of Hospital Friends or Kidderminster Blind Association, c/o Miss B. Davis, 29 Church Street, Kidderminster, Worcs.

HARPUR-CREWE.—On March 3, 1981, at Calke Abbey Ticknall, Derby, Charles Arthur Richard, aged 63 years. Funeral private. Memorial service later. Family flowers only. Donations suggested to Ticknall Parochial Church Council (Treasurer: 11 Church Lane, Ticknall). No letters please.

HEAPE, CHARLES HERBERT, of Robin's Cottage, Milland, Liphook, on 4th March, peacefully in hospital in his 89th year, dearly loved husband of Irma and father of Joan, Brian and Janet. Cremation private. Thanksgiving service to be announced later.

LAMBERT.—On 2nd March, 1981, Sylvia Lilian, aged 75 years, of Great Maytham Hall, Rolvenden, Kent. Funeral service at Rolvenden Parish Church on Tuesday, 10th March, at 11 a.m. followed by cremation at Charing. Enquiries to A. C. Towner Ltd., 6 & 8 Norman Rd., St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex. (0424) 436 396.

LEESTON-SMITH.—On 2nd March, 1981, at her home, Diana Elizabeth Leeston-Smith. Funeral service at Slough crematorium on Friday, March 6th at 12.30 p.m. ...

MARRIAGES

IN MEMORIAM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NARNEY ROBY

"Roses are red
Violets are blue
While I'm alive
I'll always love you"

ERIC

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,466

ACROSS

1 Slow to consider in detail beer brewing (10).
6 Gray's pleasure boat station (4).
9 Baby black spider's humble contribution? (6, 4).
10 Some connexions, say, with a cat (4).
12 Against invaders these bodies protect our own (4).
13 Expression one comes face to face with in 19 (9).
15 How to disinfect new mug if tea is required? (8).
16 Fish from upper edge of ship's side (6).
18 Stable sort of company? (5).
20 This invoice is for Class A (3, 5).
23 Food displayed in a cut-out (6-3).
24 Many imitate the Head (4).
26 No American state has this star (4).
27 A possible chance in it for a skilled worker (10).
28 Formerly Queen Street? (4).
29 Mary, Mary in France? On her indoor display (10).

DOWN

1 A break for the chorus (4).
2 Gum resin and alum mixed (7).
3 Plot to show bias towards Jack (7-5).
4 Strikes barred opening of seaside resort? (8).
5 Dot's petty gossip—not half! (6).
7 So delightful a place could be easily named (7).
8 Mix-up in mail Scot carried for an emperor (10).
11 Melting effect of Julia's silks (Herrick) (12).
14 "Liquor, liquor, every where, Nor any drop to drink" (3-7).
17 Not that these London friars were disabled (8).
19 Opposite number—see 13 (3-1-3).
21 Theatre company prove equal to a musical repeat (7).
22 Girl to meet in a strange land ... (6).
25 ... before 27 changes ends (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,465

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ALSO ON PAGE 24

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